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1.15 " " 1.45 " " 15 " "
1.45 " " 2.15 " " 10 " "
2.15 " " 5.00 " " 15 " "
5.00 " " 8.00 " " 10 " "
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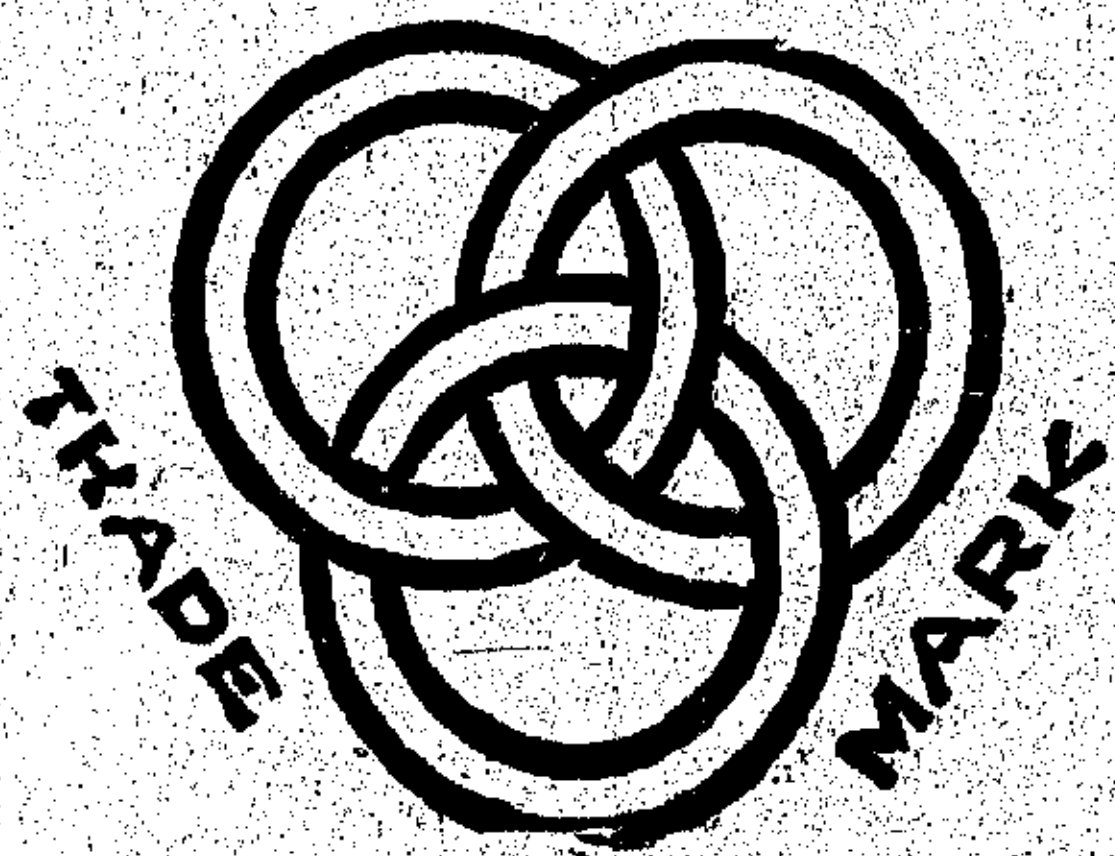


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CANTON NEWS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

CANTON, March 12th.

BANK-NOTE ROBBERY.

While the express train from Kowloon was approaching Canton on the 8th inst., a passenger lost \$1,400 in Hongkong notes and found that the pocket in which the notes had been placed was torn. The Railway police searched the passengers in the train and found that one who was sitting next to the complainant had Hongkong notes in his pocket to the value of over \$2,000. The police, therefore, accused him of the theft, but the passenger produced his account books and said that he had just returned from collecting debts at Shau-ling. Then the police found that the amount written in the books corresponded with the money in his pocket. No arrest has been made.

OPTIMISM DENSE IN CANTON.

It is understood that the date for prohibiting opium will soon arrive, and the community are therefore surprised that opium dens are increasing in number until now the city is crowded with these resorts. A few days ago the Provincial Assembly held a meeting in order to discuss this matter, and agreed that all these dens should be checked without delay. They sent a despatch to the Civil Governor asking him to take necessary steps.

ROBBERY OF NATIVE BANK ARRESTED.

The leader of the robbers who entered the native bank, Tak Chan, at Sap Sam Hong, about a week ago and threw two bombs has been brought to justice. From information received, a posse of police was sent to No. 4 Sam Sing Kung and arrested Wong Kam, and found in his house implements for manufacturing bombs. On his trial the prisoner admitted that he was the man who robbed the bank and threw two bombs, and he has been sentenced to be shot.

AMERICAN VISITORS.

The local Government has recently received a telegram from the Ministry of Army at Peking announcing that several Americans from the American Legation Quarter will shortly be coming to Canton in order to visit the Armoury and Mint, etc. The local officials have been instructed to afford them protection.

BRITISH TRADE WITH KOREA.

H.M. Consul-General at Seoul (Mr. A. H. Lay, C.M.G.) reports that imports from the United Kingdom into Korea during the first six months of 1916 showed a very heavy decline, as compared with the corresponding period of 1914, amounting only to \$216,798 in the former period, as compared with \$350,444 in the latter. Were it not for the all-round rise in values this comparison would be still more unfavourable. As compared with the first half of 1915, the value of imports into Korea from the United Kingdom during the first half of 1916 showed no great variation; this, however, was owing more to enhanced prices than to a maintenance of trade. Japanese competition in Korea is so keen and so difficult to meet at the present time that it is probable that imports from the United Kingdom would have declined to a certain extent even if conditions had remained normal. Owing to the war, however, prices have risen so greatly as to render it impossible for the Koreans, who are a very poor people, to purchase British goods. The restrictions on the exportation of certain goods from the United Kingdom also contributed to the general decrease, in which practically all the principal trades shared.

The British trade in grey sheetings has been entirely captured by the Japanese, who are also fast ousting British manufacturers from the predominant position they have hitherto held in regard to white sheetings; Japanese competition is also felt in many other trades. Since the war, much of the British trade in iron and metal manufactures has been diverted to the United States, while locomotives, rolling stock and railway material generally, for the use of the Korean railways were always mainly of American manufacture.

H. M. Consul General thinks there should be an increasing market for British manufactures in Korea if prices and import duties make competition possible. The Japanese authorities are sparing no efforts to develop the country, which undoubtedly possesses natural wealth.

A serious obstacle in the way of expansion of British trade is the absence of British mercantile houses. There are only three British firms in Korea, while in Seoul itself, a city of over 240,000 inhabitants and the seat of the Government of a country with a population of 16,000,000, there is not a single representative of British commerce.

PEAK SCHOOL.

ANNUAL PRIZE DISTRIBUTION.

The annual distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Peak School took place in the lounge of the Peak Hotel last evening, when there was a large attendance of parents and friends. Lady May distributed the prizes, and among these also present were the Bishop of Victoria and Mrs. Ender, and Mr. E. Ralphs (Inspector of Schools).

ANNUAL REPORT.

The annual report, which was read by Mr. Ralphs, was as follows:—The School has now completed its third year, which closes with 80 pupils on the roll; 32 new pupils have been admitted and 16 have left during this period. The general health of the School, which has been visited quarterly by Dr. McKenny, has been very good, although an outbreak of whooping-cough in July, which threatened to become an epidemic and which continued well on to the beginning of October, was the cause of a considerably decreased attendance during the months of July, September and October. Another reason for the low average attendance in the summer months was that from the beginning of May many pupils were away either at Weihaiwei or in Japan, many of them not returning until the end of October. Only nine children have attended regularly throughout the year. During October and November the School again filled, the latter month having the record attendance of 43. With the increased attendance the difficulties of suitable classification were felt. In Mrs. Main's class, which is taught in three divisions, the work done is very satisfactory. The other children read English and French extremely well. Arithmetic is very good, but Writing in some cases calls for attention. Discipline, which I was obliged to criticise somewhat severely last year, is now excellent. Miss Skinner's class is taught in four divisions. Reading in the senior division is very good. Brushwork is satisfactory.

The infants' class, taught by Miss Rodger, is in two divisions. Kindergarten work is good, but very little is done, as it is understood that parents do not desire it. French is very good. The children are able to understand orders given to them in French. Many parents have expressed their gratification that the children should begin at such an early age to use simple French phrases. Singing, also in French, is good. Drill is evidently much liked by the pupils; exercises are vigorously and smartly carried out. Breathing exercises are correctly done, and the Medical Officer reports that the chest measurements of the children have been increased thereby. As at the Victoria British School, it is noticeable that physical exercises are done better by the girls than by the boys. Simple games suited to the space at the disposal of the pupils are played daily. The Hon. Mr. Claud Severn, C.M.G., has offered the school the use of a playing field which adjoins his house, but unfortunately the distance between the school and the field is so great that the children have not so far been able to avail themselves of his kindness. Athletic sports were, however, held on the ground in April. Prizes were provided by friends of the school, and the children displayed great enthusiasm and no little prowess in the various events. There was a large attendance of parents and others, and tea was provided by the Hon. Mr. Severn, who very kindly assumed the role of host on the occasion. The older children have recently started a fund, to which they subscribe a small sum weekly, for the support of one prisoner-of-war in Germany. Many of the children assisted on Rose Day and Heather Day. The children so far have sent 24 to the Prisoners-of-war funds, and 24 is in hand. We also wish to thank Mrs. Miller for the use of her tennis court, and also Mr. Feuster for the use of this lounge this afternoon (Applause).

PRIZE LIST.

The prizes were then distributed as follows:—
CLASS III.—Form prize, regular attendance for three years:—Annie Miller. Composition: Alice Morton. French, reading, and geography: Angel Ormiston.

CLASS IV.—Form prize, Veronica Butterfield. History and geography: Gwen Stedman. General history: Esmo Scott. Reading and dictation: Billie Dunbar. Geography, drawing and brushwork: Barbara James.

CLASS V.—Reading and French: June Locker. Arithmetic: John Lander. General knowledge: Jack Churchill. Reading, recitation and physical exercises: Tim Churchill. Arithmetic and writing: Jim Messer. Composition, writing and needlework: Hilda Butterfield.

CLASS VI.—Form prize: Sheila Tisdall. Geography and history: Jack Miller. French: Wendy Roberts. Arithmetic: David Ellis. Writing and Composition: Lucy Norton.

CLASS VII.—Writing: Henry Butterfield. CLASS VIII.—Arithmetic: Ronald Armstrong. Arithmetic: Alec Pearce. Reading: William Hancock. Drawing and brushwork: Gordon Chatham. Arithmetic and recitation: Bunty Carter. General progress: Ben Humphreys. Handwork and writing: Chas. Butterfield. General progress: Bryan Adams.

KINDERGARTEN: Writing: Heath Messer. French recitation: Buster Churchill. General progress: Rinkie Tisdall.

During the proceedings the pupils rendered a most enjoyable programme, including solos, recitations and choruses, and at the conclusion of the prize distribution a beautiful bouquet was presented to Lady May by Pamela Potter and Donald Hogg.

At the conclusion of the proceedings Mr. Ralphs said:—Lady May desires me to express the great pleasure she feels in being present to day and in distributing the prizes. Someone has said recently that it should be our object to train our children for work and leisure, to fit the growing generation for the service of home, society, and the State, to admit all to the quest for goodness, truth and beauty; to make of our children better and happier citizens. This is the object which all in the Peak School are striving to attain. The ideal is high, but however short of it we may fall, I think you will agree that the school is progressing towards that ideal.

If we were to ask Lady May what she would like best to see in a school, I know that she would reply "Happy faces." I venture to say that happy faces in a school are an indication that there is very little animosity, and whenever I have visited this School I have never seen any but the happiest of faces, faces full of interest in the occupation of the moment. It is well to remember that the training which makes us happiest in ourselves also makes us most serviceable to others, and, on the other hand, when we are most serviceable to others we are happiest in ourselves; this I know our children are realising in the little sacrifices they make to provide funds out of which they maintain one British prisoner-of-war in Germany. Lady May congratulated the School, and expressed her very best wishes for its continued success.

COMPANY REPORT.

HONGKONG ICE CO., LTD.

The report for the year 1916 of the General Managers (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.) for presentation to the shareholders at the thirty-sixth annual meeting on the 29th inst., states:—

Including \$6,423.87 brought forward from 1915, and after deducting \$13,000 paid as an interim dividend at the rate of \$2 per share on 21st August, 1916, the balance at credit of Profit and Loss account is \$89,425.47, which it is proposed should be appropriated as follows:—
Pay final dividend of \$3 per share \$68,500.00
Provision for Contingencies Account 15,000.00
To carry forward to new account 15,925.47
\$89,425.47

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

The Rev. Père Robert was invited to fill Dr. J. W. Noble's place on the Consulting Committee.

Sir Paul Chater and Rev. Père Robert offer themselves for re-election.

HONGKONG TRAMWAY CO., LTD.

The approximate statement of traffic receipts for the week ending 10th March is as follows:—

	Receipts for week.	Aggregate receipts for 10 weeks.
This Year	\$12,289	\$130,032
Last Year	11,142	127,275
Increase	1,147	2,757

TWO HUNDRED MILLION
ACRE STATE FARM.GREAT CANADIAN SCHEME TO
WELD THE EMPIRE.

The Montreal Empire Resources Committee propose to form a 200,000,000-acre State farm in the West of Canada. The scheme staggers the Federal provincial officials, though it is recognised that the backers of the idea are not visionaries, but hardheaded, practical statesmen of vast experience, used to handling enormous problems.

It is believed, however, that grave difficulties will be presented by the fact that state-owned land does not exceed 25,000,000 acres, in Manitoba, Alberta, and Saskatchewan, and that the balance of the land is owned by the railways or privately, the latter land being more settled, and commanding a far higher price than that suggested by the committee.

Federal Ministers prefer to make no comment, and to await fuller details. Nobody is deprecating the scheme and all are careful to avoid criticism. The general belief is that when the facts are presented and the details of the scheme are worked out, it will be found gigantic, but practicable, and will make for the welding and development of the Empire.

It is believed that the scheme described above is related to the aims of the Empire Resources Development Committee (says the *Daily Express*).

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CHINESE NEWS.

ANOTHER MORATORIUM.

The *Peking Tip* reports that a certain famous scholar proposes that the Government should for the second time suspend specie payment by the Government-minted banks. The reason given is that in times of war, most foreign nations suspend specie payments and use paper as the medium of exchange. Another reason is that as the silver price is soaring high at an unprecedented rate, the merchants are exporting large amounts of silver and obtaining vast profits. Such profits are much greater than those from the export of brass cash. If things continue as at present, the country will soon experience a great lack of silver, which would be very dangerous.

NAVAL DEFENCE.

The Government will introduce several new measures in connection with naval defence. One of these measures is to give the title of co-Director of Naval Defence to the Military Governors of the provinces along the coast, and these Military Governors will be given authority to co-operate with the naval commanders to be appointed very soon. Admiral Sir Sah Chen-ping is now in Shanghai organizing naval defence.

CHINA'S ARMIES.

According to the view of General Feng Kuo-chang, the Vice-President, China's armies should have a total strength of 538,850 men, to be distributed in the various provinces as follows:—Chihli 95,000, The Metropolitan District 39,000, Jehol 13,000, Chanan and neighbouring Districts 7,000, Fengtien 33,000, Kirin 12,000, Heilungkiang 15,000, Shantung 21,000, Kiangsu 44,000, Anwei 20,000, Kiangsi 23,000, Chekiang 18,000, Fukien 9,550, Roman 37,500, Shansi 20,000, Suiyuan 6,000, Hupeh 21,500, Hunan 24,000, Szechuan 24,000, Shensi 12,300, Kansu 7,300, Sinkiang 9,500, Kwangung 40,000, Kwangsi 15,000, Yunnan 27,000, Kweichow 10,000. The Vice-President expressed his opinion on the question at a recent military conference in the President's Office.

BRASS CASH.

The railways will refuse to ship brass cash belonging to merchants. As requested by the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Communications has issued orders to all the Government railways to examine cargoes of brass and copper to see whether there is any trace of the melted brass cash. Shipment of brass cash or melted brass will be refused at the station of departure, no matter whether the cargo belong to a Chinese or to a foreigner. This is to prevent the destruction or export of brass cash by private parties.

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

POLICE SCHOOL 5.30 P.M.

Monday, March 19th.—Class X (Inspector Gerrard). Thirty-two constables warned by O. C. No. 2 Company.

Wednesday, March 21st.—Class IX (Chief Inspector Kerr). Twelve Constables warned respectively by Commanders of Nos. 1 and 2 Sections, and 3 Constables by the O. C. Maxim Gunners.

Friday, March 23rd.—Class XI (Inspector Gordon). Thirty-two Constables warned by O. C. No. 2 Company.

EXAMINATION RESULTS.

Mr. T. H. King, A.S.P., has reported the result of the recent Examination of Classes I, II, and III, held at Queen's College.

The following are the names, in order of merit, of those who passed with Credit:—

1. P.-c. 573 J. Ribeiro; 2. P.-c. 545 Ormiston; 3. P.-c. 569 da Silva; 4. Trooper 743 Galloway; 5. Trooper 796 Campbell; 6. P.-c. 633 Ellis; 7. Cr. Sergt. 683 Ford; 8. Trooper 741 Helph; 9. P.-c. 64 Leung Kwok Tai.

The names of the 35 men, in order of merit, who passed, have been posted on the Notice Board at Headquarters' Club.

The names of the 35 men who failed will be sent to their respective Commanders.

MOUNTED POLICE.

The Hon. Mr. C. E. Anon has kindly presented "Drumlog" and "Dunlop" to this detachment.

PROMOTIONS, ETC.

The Hon. C. S. P. has approved the following promotions and appointments:—

Inspector H. A. Lammert to be Chief Inspector.

Crown Sergeant 870 Eustace to be Inspector and O. C. No. 1 Platoon.

Crown Sergeant 888 Fothergill to be Staff Inspector and in charge of Emergency Calls and Police School.

Crown Sergeant 631 Wilks to be Company Sergeant-Major.

Sergeant 701 Butterfield to be Crown Sergeant and Commander No. 1 Section.

Sergeant 864 Goodwin to be Crown Sergeant and Commander No. 2 Section.

P.-c. 842 Bailey to be Sergeant.

(Sgd.) F. C. JAMES, D.S.P. (R.)

Hongkong, March 13th, 1917.

SEQUEL TO A LIQUIDATION. ALLEGED FORGED DOCUMENTS.

Yesterday afternoon evidence was heard by Mr. Justice Gompertz in the Summary Court, upon the question of authenticity of certain documents produced in an action by Mr. E. V. Carmichael, Official Receiver, against the Po Yuen Ma Choo Lung and Lee Hysen.

In the action it is alleged that the defendants, Ma Choo Lung and Lee Hysen, as directors of the Yuen Hing Company, have wrongfully taken possession of 100 chests of opium belonging to the Company. The Company was wound up by order of the Chief Justice in May, 1915, and the plaintiff is the liquidator. The action has been proceeding since the middle of December, and centres very largely around the authenticity of two documents produced by the defendants in the winding up proceedings. The evidence at yesterday's sitting had a direct bearing on this aspect of the case.

Mr. F. C. Jenkin (instructed by Messrs. Hastings & Hastings, solicitors) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. C. G. Alabaster and Mr. Eldon Potter (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, solicitors) for the defence.

Chan Kang Lu, compradore of Messrs. Douglas & Lapraik, and a member of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, was first called.

Mr. Jenkin: Have you ever seen any documents fac-similes of these two documents I hand you?—Witness: Yes, I have. I have seen them without signatures.

If you look at these documents you will find a reference to Yuen Hing Company in the text?—Yes.

In the fac-similes which you saw was there any reference to the Yuen Hing Company?—Yes.

Where did you see these documents?—In the Chinese Chamber of Commerce last year some time—a few months ago.

Who produced them?—Mr. Lau Chu Pak, the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce.

When did you see the two documents before you?—About a month ago at Mr. Sharp's chambers.

Was Mr. Carmichael present?—Yes.

When you saw these documents was any information given you as to the parties or the nature of the case with which they were connected?—No, I only saw the names on the documents.

Was the name Lee Hsuen on them?—Yes.

Do you know him?—Yes, I know him and have spoken to him. I know Leung Sang. I have known them both about three years.

Did you know anything about the Yuen Hing Company?—Not till I saw these documents.

Did you know that Company was concerned in litigation and that these were important documents in the case?—No.

Did you know that the signatures were alleged to be forgeries?—No.

Did you form any opinion as to these documents when you first examined them?—Yes.

Do you still hold that opinion?—Yes.

What is your opinion with regard to these documents?—My opinion is that in a proper agreement the signatures should be side by side and underneath the date.

Whereas, in exhibit 29 the signatures appear one over the other and a signed date?—Yes.

Where should the signatures be?—At the bottom.

You will observe that this is an agreement between two men mainly dealing with a loan of \$400.

How old are you?—Fifty-five.

Have you ever seen an agreement between two men, signed only by two, and the signatures signed one over the other as they are in that document?—No.

Is there anything peculiar about the position of the date on that document?—It is in a wrong position. It should be side by side with the names. As the date is here the document could be folded and the date torn off.

Is there anything missing which should follow the signatures?—I do not know so much now, but in such important documents it is used to be the custom to put "own handwriting" after the signatures.

Can you suggest why these words are not put on that document?—There's plenty of room for them. I cannot say why. In Hongkong, especially among business people, such a document would be stamped. The words "own handwriting" should come after each signature.

Who usually is it that writes these words—the person signing or the party writing the text?—The person signing always writes these words.

Could the date be placed over the signatures on that document?—No.

Why—Because there's no room.

You spoke about a stamp—what sort of stamp do you refer to?—The proper legal stamp.

Do you mean one stuck on or one that is impressed?—I can't say now, but I know that business men like these should know that a document of such importance should be stamped.

If I tell you that Lee Hsuen speaks English fluently, and deals with European banks, does that affect your opinion of the probability that this document would be stamped?—Any man in business in Hongkong would know that documents ought to have been stamped.

On a document have you ever seen the date placed in relation to the signatures as it is on that document?—No.

Leaving out the signatures, would you point out where the date should be if properly placed?—It should be near the body of the document. It would go down from there. It should leave enough space for the signatures to follow on.

Assume that the date was in its right place, would the document be more extraordinary or, less extraordinary, than this one is?—The one would be as extraordinary as the other. In business everything must be done as exactly as possible, to establish confidence between business people.

What do you mean by "as exactly as possible"?—I mean done properly—the names and the date in their proper places.

Are there any other peculiarities in the document?—The paper itself is curious.

What about the paper?—An important document like this should be written on good paper and not on common paper, as this is. The main thing about the document is the position of the signatures.

Do you speak with any experience of Chinese commercial documents?—Yes. All Chinese agreements are in two parts which can be fitted together.

How many years' experience of these documents have you had?—Ever since I was at school, and all the time I have been in Douglas & Lapraik—27 years.

In your opinion, is this document genuine or not?—In my opinion it is not a genuine document and would not be admitted by any Chinese official.

I show you a document bearing one signature, what do you say to that?—The same thing; the signature should follow the date. Here you can fold the date clean off.

What is your opinion of that document?—I will not say whether it is genuine or not, but I never saw the date written in the way it is here.

Cross-examined by Mr. Alabaster—I would say that neither of the documents is genuine.

Did Mr. Lau Chu Pak say anything about the documents?—He produced them and asked our opinion on them.

You saw the names of your two friends?—There were no names at all on them.

So that you cannot express an opinion as to the position of the signatures?—There were three circles to represent three characters for each name. That is quite common.

When you went to see the documents in Mr. Sharp's office did you know they were documents in litigation?—When I saw them I knew. Mr. Sharp was the first lawyer I met in connection with the matter. I very seldom go to a lawyer's office. (Laughter.)

How many interviews did you have with Mr. Sharp?—Two. The first time he was busy and I was only there a few minutes. The second time was a fortnight later and the interview lasted half an hour.

Could you not tear the date part off No. 28 and put the date between the text and the signature?—In that case the signature would be torn off.

Mr. Alabaster called his Lordship's attention to the fact that there was as much room for the date on the one side of the signature as the other.

Witness, questioned on the point, said there was plenty of room for the date above the signature but that had not been used.

A man who wished to act fraudulently could have inserted the date at the place which you say is the proper place?—Yes, that is what I cannot understand.

Does it not surprise you if the thing is a fraud, that they did not put the date in the proper place?—I don't know why he did not put it on the inside. It seems to me that the signature was written first and the date put where it is to balance it. I can only say the proper way in which a man should do the thing, not what he should do to make a fraud.

But you say this is a false document?—As far as Chinese customs go I say this is not properly done. I have not studied a book on false documents.

Don't you think a man wanting to make a forged document would endeavour to make it as near genuine as possible?—I don't know, but this document is not right.

If the signature was written first the party writing the body of the document had plenty of room to write the text and the date in the proper place if he chose?—I do not know.

You say here as an expert, and I must press you for an answer.

His Lordship—Would a man wishing to make a forged document try to make it look as genuine as possible?—I cannot say which of the documents was written first, but the signature was put outside on the one, and the other was made to correspond.

Mr. Alabaster—It would be equally possible to put the date inside in both documents?—Witness: Yes.

In No. 28 there is space of room to put the date above or below or to the side?—There is not room above, but there is room below, and the date should be above the signature.

By making the characters in the text smaller you would have space of room?—The writing is far too far up the document.

Any business man seeing that documents would know it was a forgery?—Any proper business man would repudiate it. The Court then rose.

CORRESPONDENCE. SOLDIERS AND SAILORS ON THE PEAK TRAMS.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—I think Mr. Tisdall rather makes a mountain out of a molehill, and, though it may be necessary to draw public attention to hardships suffered by our soldiers and sailors, there does not appear to be much of a grievance in this case.

Habitual travellers on the Peak Trams know that there is no attempt at social distinction; and that courtesy and consideration is shown by other travellers will, I am sure, be readily admitted by the soldiers themselves.

The trouble is the large number often wishing to travel at the same time. They cannot help this, of course, but surely residents on the Peak and other civilians have some right to consideration.

The reservation of a part of the car for such can hardly be regarded as a measure of social distinction, and to suggest this seems uncalled for and mischievous.

In common with other habits of the Tram I have frequently been compelled to wait for another car owing to the one in the station being crowded with soldiers' outside and full inside, but I have never considered it necessary to bewail this in the Press, nor do I think the soldiers care for public discussions on such trivial matters.

Since there is a rule as to reservation of accommodation for civilians inside the tram, in the best interests of the public, it would fall in its purpose if it were continually broken, and the fact that the car was empty inside in the case mentioned by Mr. Tisdall is no argument, since he admits that there was room outside, while people frequently turn up at the last moment, and there are the stations on other levels to consider.

It is not surprising that his letter has drawn the typical effusion from an anonymous correspondent published this morning, which is apparently written by someone lacking knowledge of conditions on the Peak Tram, as he switches off the point and wails about the admission of soldiers to Clubs.

I can only say that I have seen soldiers regularly enjoying the swimming facilities at the V.R.C. last summer, playing cricket on the cricket ground (as guests of the Cricket Club), and football on the grounds at Happy Valley, while your correspondent has only to walk down Queen's Road to see a building labelled in big letters "Soldiers' Club," with the "Soldiers' and Sailors' Home" further on. These are but examples of facilities enjoyed by soldiers and sailors while I am quite driving in a stuffy office, and often have to drill afterwards in the evening.

I am sending the usual \$5 to the War Charities Fund for the privilege of writing, and trust to see acknowledgments of contributions from your other correspondents in the next list, as I think that endeavours to arouse class feeling in a Colony like this are quite unnecessary.—Yours truly,

Hongkong, 13th March, 1917.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.

KEROSENE OIL LICENSES.

A number of merchants appeared before Mr. Melbourne charged with failing to renew their kerosene oil licenses, and were each fined \$3.

DEFECTIVE WEIGHTS AND SCALES.

At the instance of Inspector Torritt, a number of shopkeepers appeared before Mr. Melbourne, yesterday, charged with using weights and scales which were to the prejudice of the purchaser from 25 per cent. downwards. Fines ranging from \$3 to \$10 were inflicted.

DISTURBANCE IN A CHINESE THEATRE.

A Chinese and an Indian member of Police Reserve appeared before Mr. Melbourne, yesterday, charged with disorderly conduct in a Chinese theatre as Hung Hom. From the evidence it appeared that the defendants had gone out to the stage in defiance of instructions by Inspector McDonald that no one was to be allowed on the stage but the actors. An Indian constable asked the Chinese defendant to leave the stage. He refused, and in the course of a struggle which ensued the Police Reservist interfered and tried to prevent the arrest of the intruder. The Chinese defendant was fined \$2, and the Police Reservist dismissed, with a reminder that it was the duty of the Police Reserve to assist the Police and not to obstruct them in the execution of their duty.

GAMBLING—CORRUPTING THE POLICE.

Fifteen Chinese lined up before Mr. Melbourne charged with gambling in a house at 238 Queen's Road, Central. One of the defendants was further charged with keeping a gambling house. This charge was dismissed, but on the charge of gambling all the defendants were convicted, and were fined \$5 each.

It was stated that the house was raided, and immediately the police appeared the defendants made a rapid disappearance, some smashing the glass of the windows and thereby effecting an exit, and others getting on to the roof.

Inspector McDonald said one of the accused was a lukong, off duty. The police expected to find one or more constables among the gamblers. Their information was that those running the house were taking the police off duty, and, no doubt, paying them "bush money."

S P O R T.

YACHTING.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

The results of the eighth of the series of Club Championship Races for the Handicap, Ode, Design, and Hayward Hays and Gael Classes are as follows:—

COURSE.—LYEMUN BEACON (S), CUST ROCKS BUOY (P), LYEMUN BEACON (P). Distance, 10.1 miles.

Yacht	Handicap on Course	Finishing time	Corrected time
Dione	M.S.	4 42 05	4 42 50
Bolla	Scratch	4 47 35	4 47 35
Jessica	rec. 51	5 00 13	4 59 22
Kathleen	" 644	D.N.F.	D.N.F.
Colleen	" 503	4 59 46	4 54 43
Muscatia	" 5030	D.N.S.	D.N.S.
Aileen	" 332	D.N.F.	D.N.F.

Position	Points for race	Points to date
(1) Dione	8	43
(2) Bolla	6	52
(3) Colleen	5	40
(4) Jessica	4	29
Kathleen	—	32
Muscatia	—	2
Aileen	—	8

COURSE.—CHANNEL ROCKS (P), CUST ROCKS (P), CHANNEL ROCKS (S). Distance, 8.9 miles.

Yacht	Handicap on Course	Finishing time	Corrected time
Aileen	Scratch	4 18 25	4 18 25
Bonita	"	D.N.F.	D.N.F.
Daphne	"	D.N.S.	D.N.S.
Halcyon	"	4 23 19	4 23 19

Position	Points for race	Points to date
(1) Aileen	5	17
(2) Halcyon	3	24
Bonita	—	11
Daphne	—	33

COURSE.—CHANNEL ROCKS (P), CUST ROCKS BUOY (P), CHANNEL ROCKS (S). Distance, 6.9 miles.

Yacht	Handicap on Course	Finishing time	Corrected time
Lysbeth	M.S.	4 23 45	4 23 32
Owl	Scratch	D.N.S.	D.N.S.
Thecla	Owes 35	D.N.S.	D.N.S.
Tonninette	Rec. 35	D.N.S.	D.N.S.
Dawn	Owes 35	4 28 33	4 29 08
Lady Ursula	Scratch	D.N.S.	D.N.S.
Sirius	"	D.N.F.	D.N.F.

Position	Points for race	Points to date
(1) Lysbeth	8	54
(2) Dawn	6	45
Thecla	—	41
Owl	—	—
Tonninette	—	6
Lady Ursula	—	—
Sirius	—	—

These events were contested in a strong E.N.E. wind with heavy sea running, and several of the yachts were forced to give up the race through accident.

The margin of time, with which the Dione won her race again demonstrates the heavy weather qualities of the yacht and reflects great credit on Miss Phoebe May, who, accompanied by Miss Iris May, steered the boat to victory.

The weather conditions recalls a race sailed over the same course some years ago when the Dione won a championship race steered by His Excellency Sir F. H. May, K.C.M.G., who, rounding the Cust Rock Buoy, dislocated his right arm, but nevertheless stuck to the tiller and won out.

The ninth and last race for the Championships will be sailed off on Saturday, 17th inst. Course: Stonecutters Island (Starboard).

The results of the fourth of the series of Cruiser Championship Races is as follows:—

COURSE.—CHUNG CHAU ISLAND (S). Distance 22 miles.

Yacht	Handicap on Course	Finishing time	Corrected time
one	M.S.	4 45 54	4 41 54
Feathers	Scratch	4 54 55	4 54 55
Vesper	44 0	D.N.S.	D.N.S.
Queen Bee	23 00	D.N.S.	D.N.S.

Position	Points for race	Points to date
(1) one	5	13
(2) Feathers	3	10
Vesper	—	3
Queen Bee	—	—

COURSE.—CHUNG CHAU ISLAND (S). Distance 22 miles.

Yacht	Handicap on Course	Finishing time	Corrected time
Scotengden	M.S.	4 59 46	4 54 43
Miranda	Scratch	D.N.S.	D.N.S.
Oanone	7 30	D.N.S.	D.N.S.
Dorothy II	14 40	4 56 34	4 41 54
Lady Godiva	51 20	D.N.S.	D.N.S.

Position	Points for race	Points to date
(1) Dorothy II	6	22
Scotengden	—	9
Oanone	—	14
Miranda	—	—
Lady Godiva	—	—

The fifth and last Cruiser Championship Race will be sailed on Sunday next. Course:—Lamma Island (Starboard). Distance, 22.5 miles.

CONCENTRATION OF GUN-FIRE.

If a despatch from Copenhagen can be trusted, a Danish artillery officer has solved a problem which has long tormented gunners—how to control the widely dispersed armament of a fortress or battleship so as to be able to concentrate it on a given target at the crucial moment when an overwhelming avalanche of shells is desired. The invention is said to be so good that all the fire controller has to do is to sit at a keyboard, press the necessary button, and convey the most explicit orders to the men behind the guns. The orders can be so easily read that no error can be made. Many attempts have been made in this direction, but one inherent defect exists in them all—the communication between the artillery commander and his guns may be cut at any moment by enemy fire. It remains to be seen if the Danish invention eliminates this grave defect in previous fire controllers.

INTIMATIONS

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

JUST RECEIVED:

ANGLO-ORIENT

SEAMLESS REVERSIBLE

CARPETS AND RUGS.

TWO WEARING SURFACES INSTEAD OF ONE

in CHARMING COLOURINGS and DESIGNS.

THEY ARE OF

BRITISH MANUFACTURE

BOTH

DURABLE AND INEXPENSIVE.

WE HAVE THEM IN

SQUARES, CORRIDOR, HEARTH,

SOFA AND BEDSIDE RUGS.

INSPECTION INVITED.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

18

A.V.C. FINEST OLD LIQUEUR BRANDY.

GUARANTEED 30 YEARS OLD.

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V. D. BURGUNDIES.

Stocked by HONGKONG HOTEL.

Obtainable at LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

A. & B. MACKAY'S LIQUEUR WHISKY.

THE ORIGINAL LIQUEUR WHISKY.

PRICE \$24.00 PER CASE DUTY PAID.

Has a fine mild flavour and a refreshing clean taste.

Obtainable at all Local Stores.

and at LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

[1913]

Powell Ltd
TELEPHONE 346

"SUNDOUR"

AND

"SUNRESISTA"

UNFADEABLE—FABRICS.

BORDERED CASEMENT CLOTHS.
EXCLUSIVE DESIGNS.

CURTAIN

MATERIALS.

LACE, NET, MADRAS.

PATTERNS ON APPLICATION.

POWELL'S FURNISHING DEPT.

89

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONGKONG.

ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

IN THE MATTER OF THE SZE YAP STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LTD., and REDUCED, and

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' ORDINANCE 1911.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition for Confirmation of a Resolution Reducing the Capital of the above-named Company from \$1,000,000.00 to \$400,000.00 was on the 9th day of March presented to the Supreme Court of Hongkong, and is now pending and that the List of Creditors of the Company is to be made out as for the 13th day of April, 1917.

HASTINGS & HASTINGS,
Solicitors to the Company.

UNION WATERBOAT COMPANY,
LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the UNION WATERBOAT COMPANY LIMITED, will be held at the Office of Messrs. DODWELL & CO., LTD., General Managers of the Company, Queen's Buildings, Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, on THURSDAY, the 22nd day of March, 1917, at 11.30 o'clock A.M., when the subjoined Resolutions which were passed at Extraordinary Meetings of the said Company held on the 15th day of March, 1917, will be submitted for confirmation as Special Resolutions:

- (1) That the issued Capital of the Company be Reduced from \$277,230 (Two Hundred and Seventy-seven Thousand and Twenty-three) Dollars divided into 27,723 (Twenty-seven Thousand and Twenty-three) Shares of \$10 (Ten Dollars) each, to \$194,461 (One Hundred and Ninety-four Thousand and Sixty-one) Dollars divided into 19,446 (Nineteen Thousand and Four Hundred and Sixty-one) Shares of \$10 (Ten Dollars) each, and that such Reduction be effected by Returning (on such date as the Company's General Managers shall appoint) to the holders of the 27,723 (Twenty-seven Thousand and Twenty-three) Shares that have been issued paid up Capital to the extent of \$83 (Three Dollars) per Share and by Returning the nominal amount of each of the said Shares from \$10 (Ten Dollars) to \$7 (Seven Dollars).
- (2) That application be made to the Supreme Court of Hongkong to confirm the Reduction of the Capital of the Company in conformity with the foregoing Resolution.

Dated this Fourteenth day of March, 1917.
DODWELL & CO., LTD.,
General Managers.

THEATRE ROYAL.

SPECIAL MATINEE!

ON SATURDAY, MARCH 17TH, 4.30 P.M.

The MEMBERS of the NEW BANDMAN OPERA COMPANY

will present a

POT-POURRI ENTERTAINMENT

in Aid of a FUND to provide

Entertainment during the coming months

for

MEN OF HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICES

IN THE COLONY.

The WHOLE of the Gross Proceeds will be

given to this object.

Bookings at MOUTRIE'S.

Prices... ..\$3, \$2 & \$1.

BOOK EARLY AND HELP THIS

DESERVING FUND.

HONGKONG POLICE (RESERVE).

SERVICE RIFLE CHAMPIONSHIP

MEETING

FOR

H.E. THE GOVERNOR'S CUP.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 8TH, 1917.

Open to any person in the Colony.

(to be used in connection with printing expenses).

Service Rifles. Open Sight.

100 yds. Grouping. 400 yds. Deliberate.

200 " Deliberate. 500 "

300 " Deliberate. 600 "

Printed conditions may be obtained on written

application to Inspector H. A. LAMBERT,

Headquarters Club, M.K.P.R.

[310]

NOW READY.

THE

DIRECTORY

AND

CHRONICLE

FOR

CHINA, JAPAN, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, INDO-CHINA,

PHILIPPINES, ETC.

1917

FIFTY-FIFTH ANNUAL ISSUE.

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Orders should be sent at once to the

HONGKONG DAILY PRESS, LTD.

PUBLIC COMPANIES

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY,
LIMITED, AND REDUCED.

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Office of the Company, St. George's Buildings, Chater Road, Victoria, Hongkong, on TUESDAY, the 27th day of March, 1917, at 11.30 A.M., for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the Directors for the year ending 31st December, 1916, and declaring a Dividend.

By Order of the
BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Hongkong, 6th March, 1917. 374

HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LTD.

THE THIRTY-SIXTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of the General Managers at 11.30 A.M. on WEDNESDAY, 28th instant, to receive a Statement of the Company's Accounts to 31st December, 1916, and the report of the General Managers.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 14th to 23rd instant, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 8th March, 1917. 381

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE FORTY-EIGHTH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of the Undersecretary at Noon, on WEDNESDAY, the 28th instant. The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 14th to the 23rd instant, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 8th March, 1917. 382

CHINA SUGAR REFINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE THIRTY-NINTH ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS of the above Company will be held at the Office of the General Agents, Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., 10th Floor, 10th March, 1917, at 11.30 A.M., for the purpose of receiving the Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1916.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 16th to 30th March, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.,
General Agents.

Hongkong, 9th March, 1917. 388

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED, AND REDUCED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from THURSDAY, 1st March, to SATURDAY, 31st March, 1917, both days inclusive.

The return of Capital of \$2.50 per Share will be paid to Shareholders on and after the 15th March, 1917, on presentation of Share Certificates for endorsement.

By Order of the
BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Hongkong, 22nd February, 1917. 389

NOTICE TO MARINEERS.

ALL OUTGOING AND INCOMING STEAMERS and STEAM LAUNCHES are hereby warned that when passing HOLT'S WHARVES, which are under construction with divers working, that they MUST NOT PASS WITHIN a distance of 200 yards of them and to slow down their speed to 4 knots.

C. W. BECKWITH,
Commander, R.N.

Harbour Department,
Hongkong, 10th March, 1917. 392

G. A. DREAPER,
Deputy Surgeon-General.

R. N. Hospital,
Hongkong, 12th March, 1917. 390.

SEALED TENDERS will be received at the R. N. Hospital until 10 A.M. on the 30th March 1917, from persons desirous of Supplying BREAD, BUTTER, FLOUR, EGGS, LARD, CHEESE, FRESH COW'S MILK, ASSorted FRUITS, and other provisions, and necessities for the year ending 31st March, 1918.

Sealed Tenders will also be received for Coal (Alkali and Yabari).

Printed Forms of Tender and further particulars can be obtained at the R. N. Hospital.

The right to reject the lowest or any Tender is reserved.

G. A. DREAPER,
Deputy Surgeon-General.

R. N. Hospital,
Hongkong, 12th March, 1917. 390.

G. A. DREAPER,
Deputy Surgeon-General.

R. N. Hospital,
Hongkong, 12th March, 1917. 390.

NOTICE.

ANY EUROPEAN, Non-Asiatic or Indian desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the CENTRAL POLICE STATION between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily.

Applicants will be required to produce Pass-Port Identification papers.

All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to Register themselves under the REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916.

Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G.P.O. and at all Police Stations.

A Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

THE PARSEE TRADING CO.,
Proprietors.

Canton, 1st March, 1917. 371

TO LET—FURNISHED.
From May to end of October.

STRAWBERRY HILL, THE PEAK. Six Rooms, Garden and Tennis Court. Apply to—
"H. W. L." 1, Des Voeux Road Central. 188

TO LET—IMMEDIATELY.

LARGE OFFICE, Centrally Situated in Queen's Road, fully partitioned and fitted with electric light, telephone and exchange. Apply—
"X. Y. Z." Office. Case of "Daily Press" Office. 322

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET—FURNISHED.
From May to end of October.

STRAWBERRY HILL, THE PEAK. Six Rooms, Garden and Tennis Court. Apply to—
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TO LET—IMMEDIATELY.

LARGE OFFICE, Centrally Situated in Queen's Road, fully partitioned and fitted with electric light, telephone and exchange. Apply—
"X. Y. Z." Office. Case of "Daily Press" Office. 322

TO LET.

2 NEW HOUSES now Building in Conduit Road. Ready for occupation on 1st February, 1917. For rent and other particulars apply to—
H. M. H. NEMAZEE, 1, Des Voeux Road. 108

TO LET—AT THE PEAK.

FURNISHED and newly painted inside. 3, Stewart Terrace. Apply—
M. E. POLLOCK, Prince's Buildings. 97

TO LET.

NO. 42, ELGIN STREET. Apply to—
PERCY SMITH, SETH & FLEMING. 102

TO LET.

GODOWN at Duddell Street, Light and airy Office overlooking Statue Square. Moderate rent. For rent and other particulars apply to—
"H." Case of "Daily Press" Office. 18

TO LET.

From 1st May

OFFICES, 1st Floor, St. George's Buildings. Apply to—
SHEWAN TOMES & CO. 69

TO LET.

FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Gordon Terrace and Salisbury Avenue, Kowloon. A FLAT in Humphreys Buildings, Kowloon. TO LET OR FOR SALE. KOWLOON MARINE LOT 43 with wharf area 58,000 sq. ft., suitable for Coal Storage or erection of Godowns. Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd., Alexandra Buildings. 1291

TO LET.

OFFICES at 2, Connaught Road Central.

OFFICES in King's and York Buildings. "THE RETREAT," No. 18, THE PEAK. HOUSES in Clifton Gardens, Conduit Road. HOUSES in Broadwood and Moreton Terraces.

HOUSES on Shamoon, Canton.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY Co., Ltd. 128

TO LET.

NO. 3, CAMERON VILLAS, No. 63, THE PEAK. FURNISHED. "ELANDONAN," No. 54, THE PEAK (Furnished).

No. 3, GOUGH HILL (No. 102, THE PEAK). FURNISHED, for 3 or 4 months from 1st June, 1917.

No. 25, SHELLEY STREET. 2-ROOMED HOUSE at Mount Kaitia. FURNISHED, for 5 or 6 months.

No. 12, BEACONSFIELD ARCADE SHOP.

No. 3, CAMERON VILLAS, 63, PEAK. KELLET'S CREST, 66, PEAK.

No. 25, BELLIOS TERRACE, with entrance on Conduit Road.

TWO GODOWNS, 12 Duddell Street.

No. 2, DES VOEUX VILLAS, 51, PEAK (Furnished).

No. 56, THE PEAK (CAMERON VILLAS). Apply to—
LINSFORD & DAVIS. 30

NOTICE.

THIS IS TO INFORM the General Public that the Undersecretary is the Sole Proprietor of JOSEPH BROTHERS, and all connection with the Firm carried on at Shanghai under the same name has ceased as from the 1st October, 1916.

EDWARD MENASHIEH JOSEPH. Hongkong, 12th March, 1917. 393

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

NOTICE.

On and after 12th March, 1917, the house for the Transaction of Business by the HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK will be 10 A.M. to 12 Noon, SATURDAYS included.

For the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, N. J. STARR, Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 6th March, 1917. 370

NOTICE.

WE beg to inform the Public and in those whom it may concern that MR. N. EMANUEL ALLAYA has This Day taken over our Business of Storekeepers, &c., including the Godown, and will henceforth carry on the said Business under the same style or Firm name, and our interest and responsibility in the said concern will cease on and after that date.

THE PARSEE TRADING CO.,
Proprietors.

Canton, 1st March, 1917. 371

INTIMATION

WATSON'S
OLD BROWN
BRANDY

QUALITY.



25 YEARS IN WOOD.

A. S. WATSON &
CO., LTD.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

TELEPHONE 616

MARRIAGE.

HARRIS—HENDLEY. On January 4th, at Harrow-on-the-Hill, Lieut. R. HARRIS, Middlesex Regiment, to ETHEL MARY, daughter of Mrs. HENDLEY and step-daughter of Major F. G. Hendley. 384

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VOEUX ROAD, C. LONDON OFFICE: 181, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG 14TH MARCH, 1917.

THE FALL OF BAGHDAD.

THE gratifying news of the recapture of Kut-el-Amara by the British Expeditionary Force in Mesopotamia has been followed within a fortnight by the announcement of the occupation of Baghdad. This, as Mr. BONAR LAW declared in the House of Commons, is the sequel to "a series of operations carried out by British and Indian troops with a dash and determination for which no praise can be too high."

It was in the attempt to reach this city towards the close of 1915 that the British troops met with their first reverse in this field of operations. The Expeditionary Force which was sent to defend our interests in the Persian Gulf immediately after the declaration of war found the Turks unprepared to offer serious resistance. With comparatively little opposition they were able to advance to Busehr and Kurna. They settled down there to consolidate the territory they had won, and while they were so employed, the Turks, under German instructions, sent reinforcements with guns to southern Mesopotamia. A force attack was launched against our positions. In the main attack near Busehr the enemy were routed, and elsewhere they were repulsed. Our forces then advanced to Kut-el-Amara, on the Tigris, and to Nasiriyah, on the Euphrates. On September 29th, 1915, they inflicted a heavy defeat on the Turks at Ess Sin, near Kut, and compelled them to retreat in haste to Ctesiphon, eighteen miles south of Baghdad. Up to this point the record of the Mesopotamian forces had been one

of unbroken success. Now, however, they appear to have been kept waiting some weeks for instructions as to their future movements, and then to have been hastily flung forward, only to discover, on reaching Ctesiphon, that the delay had been taken advantage of by the enemy to bring strong reinforcements down the Tigris. General TOWNSEND, finding his progress opposed by vastly superior numbers, was obliged to fall back on Kut, where he was closely invested by the enemy, and finally forced to capitulate, owing to the exhaustion of all supplies, after a gallant resistance extending over five months. This happened in May of last year, and for some months following very little was heard of the main body of the British force, which was established lower down the river. The interval, however, was usefully employed. Great improvements were made as a result of the public criticism which was levelled against the direction and organisation of the Expedition, and defects in supply, transport, and medical arrangements were remedied. It is owing to this that the forward movement, which was resumed last December, has been so swiftly and successfully carried out. Since the 26th of last month General MAUDE has driven the enemy back 110 miles from one prepared position to another through a country destitute of supplies and presenting formidable natural obstacles. In the course of the pursuit it was necessary to cross the Tigris three times and at one point the stream was thirty yards wide and unfordable. Whether the ultimate goal of the Expedition has now been reached it is impossible to say. It may be that the hope is eventually to join hands with the Russians, who are operating several hundred miles further north in the neighbourhood of Lake Van. But, be this as it may, there can be no doubt that the heavy losses in men and materials which the Turks have suffered at the hands of our gallant troops will be a heavy blow to their morale, and added to previous reverses, induce grave doubts as to their wisdom in acting as the catspaws of their new-found friends. It is calculated, also, to make Germany anxious about the realisation of her dazzling vision of an Imperial sway extending from the North Sea to the Persian Gulf. Baghdad is on the high road to India, and that fact gives it very great importance. If a line were drawn from Berlin through Vienna, Constantinople, and Baghdad to Karachi it would be nearly straight, and Germany's railway projects in this part of the world would enable the journey from London to Karachi, which now occupies fifteen days by sea, to be accomplished in eight days by land. Germany's prospects of controlling such a railway, however, become more shadowy every day.

The next sitting of the Bankruptcy Court will take place to-morrow at 10.30 a.m.

Mr. Arthur Lee, Director General of Food Protection, was adjutant of the Hongkong Volunteers in 1899-90.

Mrs. Blake of the Soldiers' Club, Queen's Road East, has reported to the Police that her "boy" has absconded with \$250 in notes, taken from her wardrobe, which he opened with a duplicate key.

The annual athletic sports in connection with St. Paul's College will be held on the Jockey Club ground, Happy Valley, on Wednesday, 21st March. Mrs. Lander has kindly consented to present the prizes.

Queen's College Annual Athletic Sports have been postponed for a week. They will take place on the College Ground at Causeway Bay on the 27th inst., commencing at noon. There will be a 220 yards race for Old Boys. Post entries.

The Rev. Father Watson, who is now at the 15th General Hospital, Alexandria, mentions in a recent letter that he has met Fleet-Surgeon Tomlinson and Lt.-Commander England, formerly of the China Station, and Col. Gordon Hall, formerly of Hongkong.

The second Conference in connection with the Church of England Men's Society is to be held this evening (Wednesday) in the City Hall, at 9 o'clock, when "Life after Death" will be considered. The Rev. H. Copley Moyle is to read a paper on the subject. All men are invited. There will be a discussion.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals acknowledges with thanks a donation of \$50 to the funds of the Hospitals from the Standard Oil Co.

Mr. F. A. Perry, of the British American Tobacco Company, has reported to the Police that, between noon on the 11th inst. and 6 a.m. on the 12th, someone entered the Company's premises at Bank Buildings by the back door and made off with cigarettes to the value of \$54.

In the Summary Court yesterday it was intimated to the Chief Justice that the adjourned action by a Chinese cook-boy against Mr. G. D. Keyser, Nathan Road, Kowloon, for \$30, balance of wages due, and \$24, a month's wages in lieu of notice, had been settled out of Court.

Several victims of misplaced confidence have reported to the Police the disappearance of a man named Wan Chon-tong, partner in a boarding-house at 122, Connaught Road, Central, with money entrusted to him. One of the victims gave him \$1,400, another \$100 and a third \$880, all for purposes to which he failed to apply the money.

The Police have been apprised of a daring case of armed robbery in the harbour. The master of a licensed harbour boat states that at 10 p.m. on the 11th instant three men—two of them armed with revolvers, and one with a dagger—boarded his boat, drove him and the crew into the hold, and decamped with a quantity of cargo and a number of articles on the deck, valued at \$182.20.

The Bandman Opera Company gave a repeat performance of "Mr. Manhattan" last night at the Theatre Royal and were deservedly favoured with a full "house." The piece is very bright and entertaining, contains plenty of melodious and catchy music and ballets, with droll situations and mirth-provoking passages. The parts were judiciously distributed over a strong cast, who presented the play with a measure of success that left nothing to be desired and evoked warm appreciation. To-night the Company presents the recent Adelphi success "Tina."

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE FOOD-PRICES COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the above is to be held to-morrow at 2.30 p.m. The "Orders of the day" are as follows:—

The Hon. Mr. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C., will ask the following questions:—

THE WAR.

OCCUPATION OF BAGHDAD: MR. BONAR LAW ON THE ACHIEVEMENT.

AMERICA AND ARMED MERCHANTMEN: NOTE ISSUED TO FOREIGN DIPLOMATS.

CHINA'S BREAK WITH GERMANY: RECALL OF CHINESE AMBASSADOR AT BERLIN.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

THE OCCUPATION OF BAGHDAD.

SEQUEL TO SERIES OF BRILLIANT OPERATIONS.

LONDON, March 12th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law stated that the occupation of Baghdad was the sequel to a series of brilliant operations carried out by British and Indian troops with a dash and determination for which no praise could be too high.

He recalled that, after severe fighting on the right bank of the Tigris, in which heavy losses were inflicted on the enemy, General Maude's crossing of the river near Kut imperilled the safety of the Turkish army in Mesopotamia. The enemy immediately retired in the direction of Baghdad. General Maude pursued them with the utmost energy. Not only were large numbers of the enemy made prisoner and quantities of material of all kinds taken during the pursuit, but there was good reason to believe that nearly two-thirds of the whole of the enemy's artillery either fell into our hands or had been thrown into the Tigris.

On the 5th of March our cavalry came up on the Turkish rearguard 27 miles from Baghdad. After an action the Turks abandoned their prepared position. On the 7th instant our cavalry found the enemy in position on the DIALA river. This affluent of the Tigris presented a formidable obstacle, being over 30 yards wide and unfordable. General Maude therefore withdrew his cavalry and brought his infantry into action. The Turks meanwhile received reinforcements from Baghdad, and a formidable resistance was offered on the DIALA, covering Baghdad from the south-west.

General Maude bridged the Tigris at the point of its confluence with the DIALA. Thereupon his cavalry crossed the river supported by troops on the right bank. Despite the heat and dust the troops brilliantly marched 13 miles, finding the enemy strongly entrenched six miles south-west of Baghdad. The enemy was immediately driven back two miles.

On the 8th instant, our troops, after fighting on the DIALA, established a footing on the northern bank. During the 9th and 10th our troops on the right bank, despite dust storms, pressed their advantage, driving back the enemy to within three miles of the outskirts of Baghdad. Simultaneously our troops gained the passage of the river, forcing the enemy back upon Baghdad, which we entered on the morning of the 11th instant.

Concluding Mr. Bonar Law said:—General Maude thus completed the victory of Kut by a pursuit of 110 miles, in which the Tigris was crossed three times. (Cheers.) The pursuit was conducted through a country destitute of supplies, and despite the commencement of summer heat. Apart from the skill and vigour of the leadership and the valour and endurance of the troops, both British and Indian, such operations were only possible in such a country after the most thorough, systematic, and careful arrangements had been made for supply; and the fact that General Maude was not only able to feed and munition his Army, and assure proper attention to the sick and wounded, but is able to report that he can provide necessities for the Army in Baghdad, reflects the greatest credit on the General Staff and all concerned. (Cheers.)

GRAND FLEET'S CONGRATULATIONS.

LONDON, March 12th.

The Press Bureau reports that Admiral Beatty, through General Robertson, has conveyed to General Maude, the Grand Fleet's admiration and congratulations on the magnificent achievement of capturing Baghdad.

EARLIER CABLES.

GREAT DELIGHT IN FRANCE.

PARIS, March 12th.

There is great delight at the fall of Baghdad.

Experts assert that there is reason to believe that General Maude organised the advance and disposed the forces, men and material in such a manner as not to be at the mercy of the enemy in a counter-movement.

NO MENTION IN TURKISH ANNOUNCEMENT.

LONDON, March 12th.

To-day's Turkish official announcement does not mention Baghdad.

RETIREMENT FOR MILITARY REASONS.

AMSTERDAM, March 12th.

In the Turkish Chamber, Enver Pasha admitted that the Turks had retired in Mesopotamia and Persia for military reasons.

LATEST CABLES.

GENERAL SMUTS.

LONDON, March 12th.

General Smuts has arrived in London.

INTERESTING INTERVIEW.

LONDON, March 12th.

Interviewed by Reuter's Agency, General Smuts said:—The only thing delaying the absolute end of the German East African campaign is the prevalence of the rainy season till May, when the Germans will be compelled to surrender or enter Portuguese territory, where the Portuguese are quite prepared to handle them. The enemy only consists of a remnant of an army. Practically all South African white troops have departed. The native battalion raised, owing to the unfavourable climate, are remaining to finish up.

TRIBUTE TO NATIVE TROOPS.

General Smuts spoke in high terms of the natives' magnificent infantry work, and said they would shortly be available for service elsewhere.

NO RETURN TO GERMANY.

Nothing had given greater pleasure than Mr. Walter Long's statement that no German Colony would return to Germany. The mere suggestion was preposterous. He shuddered to think what would happen to the natives if any part was returned. The natives had supported us magnificently, and our prestige in the East would suffer.

EARLIER CABLES.

COTTON IMPORT DUTY.

GOVERNMENT STANDS BY ITS ACTION.

LONDON, March 12th.

Replying the Lancashire Cotton Trade Deputation demanding the withdrawal of the new Indian import duty on cotton goods, or a corresponding increase in the countervailing excise, Mr. Chamberlain said it was not practical politics to raise the excise, as there was not a single member of the Legislative Council of India who would vote for it. The Government stood by its action, which, it considered, accorded with Imperial interests and the spirit of justice.

CHINA AND GERMANY.

RESOLUTION TO BREAK OFF RELATIONS CARRIED.

PEKING, March 12th.

The House of Representatives has approved, by a majority of over three hundred, of the breaking off of relations with Germany.

DARDANELLES COMMISSION.

EVIDENCE NOT TO BE PUBLISHED.

LONDON, March 12th.

In the House of Commons, replying to Mr. Asquith, Mr. Bonar Law said that the Dardanelles Commission does not recommend the publication of the evidence, because the parts dealing with naval and military considerations or the relationship of the Allies could not be published without serious detriment to the public interests. Therefore the Government was not prepared to publish it.

Sir Stephen Collins:—Would it not have been better if the report had not been published?

Mr. Bonar Law:—The Government thought it bound to publish it in consequence of the Act of Parliament appointing the Commission.

Mr. Churchill:—Who is responsible for the excisions?

Mr. Bonar Law:—The Foreign Office, the Admiralty and the War Office made the excisions, and the Cabinet is responsible.

COUNT BERNSTORFF.

OFF TO COPENHAGEN.

CHRISTIANIA, March 12th.

Count Bernstorff has left for Copenhagen.

POTATOES NOT TO BE RATIONED.

LONDON, March 12th.

In the House of Commons, replying to a question, Mr. Bonar Law stated that it was not proposed to ration potatoes.

Russian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

RUSSIAN CAPTURE.

TURKISH TROOPS ROUTED.

LONDON, March 12th.

A Russian *communiqué* says:—We occupied Rissoutin, in the region of Hamadan, on the 8th instant, after routing the Turks, who withdrew in the direction of Hadji-Abad, hard pressed by us. We repulsed enemy gas attacks south-west of Laken-Aroch and south-east of Kovel.

Air-fighting has been continuous. Nine enemy machines have been brought down or driven down, four of which are known to have been destroyed. Five of our machines are missing.

Naval Activities.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

AMERICAN SHIPS ARMED.

FOREIGN DIPLOMATS NOTIFIED.

WASHINGTON, March 12th.

The State Department has issued a notice to Foreign Diplomats that American ships traversing the submarine zone will carry "an armed guard for the protection of the vessel and the lives of the persons aboard."

It is expected that European vessels plying to American ports will take advantage of the new ruling of the State Department, permitting vessels to be armed fore as well as aft.

SUBMARINISM.

ITALIAN OFFICIAL REPORT.

ROME, March 12th.

An official report states:—For the week ending 8th March there have been 493 arrivals (391,211 tons) and 494 sailings (315,801 tons) from Italian ports. Four steamers and three sailing vessels have been sunk.

Franco-Belgian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

BRITISH ACTIVITIES.

POSITION SLIGHTLY IMPROVED.

LONDON, March 12th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a *communiqué* says:—We have slightly improved our position on the north-east of Bouchevannes. We entered trenches in the same neighbourhood, securing prisoners.

We raided trenches to the south of Arras and bombed dug-outs despite strong resistance, inflicting many casualties.

BRILLIANT FRENCH ATTACK.

HUNS BOMBARD OPEN TOWN.

LONDON, March 12th.

A French official report from Champagne states:—We re-attacked in the afternoon German positions west of Maisons de Champagne, and captured on a mile front all enemy trenches, also Hill 185. We entered a fortified work thereon and took a hundred prisoners.

There has been an artillery duel on both banks of the Meuse.

The Germans, in the afternoon, bombarded the open town of Soissons with incendiary shells, causing several fires.

EARLIER CABLES.

GERMAN SURPRISE ATTACK.

COMPLETELY REPULSED.

LONDON, March 12th.

A French *communiqué* says:—The enemy made a surprise attack in the region of Paisy between Soissons and Rheims, but was completely repulsed. The enemy sustained losses and left prisoners.

We again progressed by means of hand grenades towards Maisons de Champagne, and we successfully raided German trenches in the Woëvre.

There were patrol encounters in the sectors of Aubervie and in Lorraine, wherein we took prisoners.

GERMAN CLAIMS.

AMSTERDAM, March 12th.

A Berlin *communiqué* states that clear visibility is responsible for increased long range attacks, and aviation activity on the Western Front. Firing has been especially violent on the Aisne between Bucquoy and Le Transloy. South of Ripont we repulsed a French attack. As a result of attacks by our aviators the enemy lost sixteen aeroplanes and two captive balloons.

WAR NEWS.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT COLONEL-IN-CHIEF OF VOLUNTEERS.

The War Office announce that the Duke of Connaught is to become Colonel-in-Chief of the Volunteer Force.

This will be a popular appointment, for Field-Marshal the Duke of Connaught has worked hard for every step he has attained in the Army, and is regarded in the Service as an enthusiastic and capable soldier.

The Duke went with the Rifle Brigade to Canada, in 1899, and was with his battalion when it mobilised against the Fenian rioters near St. John's River. His Royal Highness commanded the Guards in the fighting at and preceding the battle of Telle-kebir in 1892. He was mentioned in dispatches, and received the thanks of both Houses of Parliament.

Twice he has held a command in India: once in England, and once in Ireland and the Mediterranean. In 1911 he was appointed Governor-General of Canada in succession to Earl Grey, and he has only recently relinquished that appointment after a highly successful tenure of office.

DENMARK AND THE ALLIES.

An address on "Denmark and the War" was delivered by Mr. Axel Gerfalk at a meeting of the Aldwych Club recently. Mr. Gerfalk, who has received the thanks of the Foreign Office for his services in promoting friendly feeling between Great Britain and Denmark, has also had the distinction of having his name put on the German black-list.

In a brief historical survey, Mr. Gerfalk referred to Denmark's struggle with Prussia in 1864. Denmark remembered 1864, and when the question "Why did Denmark keep out of the war?" was raised, that should not be forgotten. She knew that with an army of 40,000 men she had no chance of a chance against the German hordes.

The Danes were a nation of honest farmers, and they had not been seduced by the Germans, who had offered during the war to pay 15 per cent. more for produce than the English would. The Danes felt after this war England would have to give some preference to her Colonies, but, in spite of that, they had been loyal, and although the British blockade had been seriously felt by the country it had not reduced their loyalty.

The Danes are with you in spirit, although circumstances forbid that they should be with you with the sword. was Mr. Gerfalk's summing up of the position.

OUR LONDON LETTER.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BRITISH LABOUR SOLID FOR THE WAR.

LONDON.

"SILVER BULLETS" FROM HONGKONG. The receipt of over half-a-million pounds sterling by the Imperial Government from Hongkong as a contribution towards waging the war has been a subject of very appreciative comment here. Prominence was given in the Metropolitan journals to the official announcement of the munificent gift; and I notice that the London correspondents of the great provincial dailies have directed particular attention to the matter. It is pointed out that while Hongkong cannot raise and equip great Armies like Canada, Australia and New Zealand, the Crown Colony has done something as useful and valuable within the limit of its powers.

Both men and money are essential to our success in the war; and, while we are already sure of the men required, the demand for money continues, and must continue until final victory is achieved. Hongkong has undoubtedly shown other small communities within the Empire in a notable way how they can give expression to their loyalty and devotion to the common cause. When Mr. Lloyd George was Chancellor of the Exchequer and launched his first War Loan he declared that it was possible that the last million or so of money would win the war. It is recognised here that the people of Hongkong have nobly done their part in that direction.

LABOUR AND THE WAR.

The discussions at the annual meetings of the Labour Conference are rightly regarded as a pretty accurate indication of working-class opinion on questions of the day; for, of course, the delegates are bound to vote according to the instructions they receive from the Trade Unions they represent. This year's Conference, just concluded at Manchester, discussed at length the all-absorbing question of the war. In the result it has been conclusively demonstrated that, as regards the energetic prosecution of the struggle and no patched-up peace, the workers of the country are as unyielding as any other classes of the community.

The extreme Socialists who masquerade under the high-sounding title, the Independent Labour Party, with Messrs. Ramsay MacDonald, Philip Snowden and F. W. Jowett as shining lights, sought to carry a resolution calling on the Government to enter into immediate negotiations for peace. But the Conference rejected the proposal by an overwhelming majority. Another attempt was made to mislead the world on the attitude of British Labour by a resolution in favour of an International Socialist Conference. In this instance, also, the Pacifist wire-pullers were heavily defeated. Trade Unionists in this country may have been guilty of many mistakes in the past, but it is to their credit that since the beginning of the war they have never swerved in their loyalty to the great cause. The Pacifists remain labelled after the Conference, as they were before it, a negligible, if noisy, quantity.

THE STATE AND LIQUOR CONTROL.

During the week an official statement was issued that further measures are to be adopted in order to diminish the consumption of alcohol. Something has been done already with that end in view, as already noticed in this column, by banning the time-honoured custom of "treating," and by restricting the hours for the sale of drink. Now, Lord Devonport, as Food Controller, goes a step further and declares that the allowance of grain to brewers must be cut down on the ground that it is required for bread instead of for beer.

The immediate effect of the new measures will be seen in a reduction of the supply of "the brown October" beloved by the British workingman, coupled with an advance in the price by a penny or two pence a pint. The output of spirits is also to be curtailed, and the public are warned that in a few weeks well-known brands of whisky will cost from 8s. to 10s. a bottle, while at the same time the distillers will be permitted to dilute the stuff with water up to 50 per cent. Although these drastic measures are by no means popular (in peace time such proposals would kill any political party!) no effective protest is made because it is believed (Continued at foot of next column.)

CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."] SHANGHAI, March 13th.

THE BREAK WITH GERMANY.

THE MANDATE OF SEVERANCE.

A Mandate to declare the severance of relations with Germany was discussed by yesterday's Cabinet meeting.

PROTECTION OF RAILWAYS.

The Government has ordered the Provincial officers to protect all railways.

SPECIAL MILITARY LOAN.

The Ministry of Finance is preparing to issue a Special Military Loan.

CONTROL OF GERMAN RESIDENTS.

The Government is consulting as to measures for controlling German residents in China.

RECALL OF CHINESE AMBASSADOR.

The Government has telegraphed to the Chinese Minister in Berlin ordering him to leave Germany.

that the action of the Government is a necessary war measure. The public will submit to almost anything if assurance is given that the change is a means to the great end in view—the defeat of the enemy.

Appropos of this, a feeling is growing up that instead of trying to regulate the liquor traffic by restrictions on the public, it would be far better if the Government acted boldly and put the whole business under State control. The manufacture and sale of intoxicants could then be regulated from inside instead of from without by means of pains and penalties.

PRESIDENT WILSON AGAIN. In a recent letter I remarked that, speaking generally, people feel that they have heard enough of peace talk; and that our business is to get on with the war. But we may be sure that until the war is ended there will be constant discussion about peace, for the Germans will see to that. What the average man does not comprehend is why the United States President keeps the subject to the fore. His speech to the Senate in which he said the war should end in a "peace without victory" is resented in England as indicating a desire to interfere which cannot be tolerated.

The Times says that "the treaties and agreements which end the war must embody terms which will create a peace worth guaranteeing and preserving"; and the paper bluntly adds, "the United States will have no voice in determining what these terms shall be." The *Washington Gazette*, in a spirited reply, asks:—"Would you, President Wilson, if you had been in our position, suffered what we have suffered from 1914 onwards, have patiently listened to a third party telling you that you must be content to end the war without winning it? Was Lincoln ready to end his war without winning it, and did he encourage the intervention of Europe in the American struggle?"

To Britons who are in this war to the death it is trying to hear the President of the American Republic, a country speaking our language and bound to us in many other ways, looking on at our fight for the freedom of the world and the future of humanity with an air of complete detachment. But the truth is, as those with knowledge will bear witness, that outside the Eastern States the Americans are not particularly cordial towards us. The cabled extracts from great papers like the *New York Tribune* and the *New York Herald* reflect opinion which is certainly friendly to England and the Allied cause; but on the other hand, there are scores of papers in the Middle West and the Far West, and hundreds of thousands of people there, who would just as soon see the Germans win the war. In addition, millions of German-Americans are fanatically eager for the success of the Fatherland. President Wilson, who is as wise in his generation as the next man in American politics, has these people in mind when he delivers pious opinions; and if that simple and significant fact is kept in mind, we shall know how to rate at their proper value Presidential pronouncements on peace.

WAR ON HOSPITAL SHIPS.

GERMAN EXCUSES FOR NEW ATROCITY.
PROOFS THAT CANNOT BE PRODUCED.

According to the *Cologne Gazette*, the following Memorandum was handed by the German Government to the American and Spanish Ambassadors in Berlin for delivery to the British and French Governments:—

For a considerable time past the enemy Governments, especially the British, have used their hospital ships not only for rendering assistance to the wounded sick, and shipwrecked, but also for military purposes, thereby violating the Hague Convention concerning the application of the Geneva Convention on war at sea. Suspicion had already been aroused by the fact that the British Government during the Gallipoli campaign had notified to the Governments of the Quadruple Alliance a disproportionately large number of vessels as hospital ships, which could not possibly have been meant to serve exclusively for the transport and nursing of the wounded and sick. Thus in 1915 alone not less than 59 vessels were notified by the British Government to be hospital ships, after it had since the outbreak of war already given notice that 40 other vessels were hospital ships.

After the victorious termination of the Gallipoli campaign, the Turkish Government notified the neutral Powers, in a Note of protest, that the British commanders had used the hospital ships which were in the Eastern Mediterranean for transporting back troops and military stores. To this must be added the fact that the British Government, contrary to the usual custom, did not equip certain ships once for all as hospital ships, and use them as such for the duration of the war, but repeatedly placed a vessel on the list of hospital ships and shortly afterwards struck her off the list, so that the German Government was hardly able to send the corresponding information in time to its naval forces.

Thus, for instance, the steamer *Copenhagen*, which was employed by the British Government as a transport, was notified in a Verbal Note by the American Embassy in Berlin on October 14th, 1914, to be a hospital ship, while on February 6th, 1915, she was again declared to be struck off the list in order to be replaced once more on the list on January 1st, 1916, and again to be struck off on March 4th, 1916. This procedure clearly produced the impression that it was intended to create uncertainty and confusion regarding the character of the vessels thus employed, by permitting the peaceful or warlike character of the vessels to be emphasized according to requirements. Moreover, in 1915 numerous trustworthy reports reached the German Government that British hospital ships in the Channel, which had to embark at French ports and bring to English ports wounded men of the British Army fighting on Franco-Belgian soil, were laden in a strikingly heavy manner on their journey from England to France, while on their return journey they were of normal draught. From this circumstance various observations, especially sea captains, concluded that the vessels were misusing the Red Cross in their passage to France, being used as munition transports on the outward journey.

"UNEXCEPTIONABLE WITNESSES."

This surmise was later confirmed by a number of unexceptionable witnesses. English soldiers often admitted that hospital ships were thus employed, and a French sergeant told a German prisoner that he clearly observed how munitions were carried during the night to the hospital ship *La France* in numerous motor-cars while she was lying in Marseilles harbour. British sailors, according to the declaration on oath of a trustworthy neutral, said that the transport of munitions to France by the English was often carried out in hospital ships.

Finally, there are available declarations on oath by eye-witnesses who were spectators as to how munitions were loaded on board hospital ships. The most grievous violation of the Hague Convention, however, lies in the fact that the British and French Governments, in numerous cases, have allowed their troops to be transported by hospital ships. In the Channel the transport of troops by hospital ships is clearly customary. Moreover, on various occasions the arming of such ships has been established. The reports of the informants and witnesses mentioned in the Annex form only a small part of the material before the German Government. Of these persons a number could not be mentioned by name, because they were directly or indirectly within the enemy's power, and therefore any mention of their names would expose them to heavy reprisals.

In any case, as far as the German Government is concerned, it entertains no doubt that the enemy Governments have continually and most grossly violated by their behaviour the Hague Agreement concerning the application of the Geneva Convention. The German Government would be justified in view of the breach of treaties by the enemy, in renouncing the Agreement, in its entirety, but on the grounds of humanity it will still refrain from such a course.

On the other hand, it can no longer permit the British Government under the hypocritical cover of the Red Cross, to send without danger to their transports, troops and munitions to the main theatre of war.

It therefore declares that henceforth it will tolerate no enemy hospital ship in the sea area between lines drawn between Flamborough Head and Terschelling, on

GERMAN COURTS OF BLOOD.

SAVAGE BRUTALITY IN POLAND.
TERRIBLE FATE OF GIRLS AND WOMEN.

The following account of German brutality in Poland by an educated Pole from Warsaw, who has recently arrived in Holland, is published by the *Amsterdam Telegraph*:—

The Germans have installed themselves in the great Polish city as if they were at home. The principal business houses in the centre of the city, in the suburb of Cracow and Marszałkowska-street, are kept by Germans. All industry in the country is dead. The factories are closed, and the machinery of the greater part of them has been taken down and sent to Germany.

All the material for industry, the copper, the factory machinery, the dynamo, the motor parts, the cotton and the wool have been confiscated by the invader. In a certain number of large factories and warehouses only the four walls remain. The commandant requisitions everything, even to clothing and the shop carpets. Provisions are becoming constantly scarcer, and the poorest part of the population at Wola has begun to kill dogs for food.

MORAL OPPRESSION.

More crushing and agonising than this increasing famine, however, is the moral oppression, the menace of which is over the country. The "Courts of Blood" perform their work without cessation. Firing parties are always at work. In the neighbourhood of Pila, absolutely innocent people have been shot.

Search is made continually in private houses to discover a trace of connection with "the enemies"—meaning the Allies. A month's imprisonment has been inflicted on a man who pretended to stop his ears during the passing of the German flag, and a similar sentence for not saluting the flag. Lamentable and heartrending scenes which leave behind them in the innermost being a hatred which nothing can uproot are to be seen everywhere.

Before my departure I saw with my own eyes how the Germans proceed in the sweeping away of men. At night cordons of troops surrounded a working class quarter at Warsaw not far from the Nadwislanska Station with loaded rifles. "Alles heraus!" (all out) ordered a sergeant. Then occurred a tragic scene. The soldiers chose here and there those men and women whom they thought suitable, "separated" brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and compelled those whom they declared good for slavery to leave immediately. Thus more than 100,000 men and women were removed from the part of the country under the Government of Warsaw.

WOMEN'S FATE.

Young women and girls alike are torn from their families and collected in camps, pell-mell with women of evil life, with the lowest of their sex. The most beautiful women are reserved for the officers. Deportation trains leave the country every day for Germany. There, as in Poland, the hardest labour is imposed on the deported with, in addition, a severe regime of terrorism and of punishments. Many unhappy fellow-countrymen are compelled to lie on the ground without covering, exposed to all the hardships of the cold winter.

In Poland there is a regime of misery which no civilised people dare to impose upon its worst criminals. Tuberculosis is consequently beginning to make frightful ravages among the emaciated population. But in spite of everything the energy of the unhappy people is not giving way. Little account is made of fines, espionage, prison. They mock the enemy whom they detest. They write Polish songs which they sing to German tunes. To the air of "Deutschland, Deutschland über Alles" they sing "Niemiec, Niemiec, on za siebie," which means "Germany, Germany, go to the devil." And the Germans hear the air without understanding the words, and approve, flattered.

one side and Ushant and Land's End on the other. If after a suitable period of grace the enemy hospital ships are still encountered in this area they will be regarded as belligerents and attacked out of hand. The German Government considers that it can proceed to this measure all the sooner as the route from the West and South of France to the West of England remains free for enemy hospital ships, and therefore the transport of wounded English to their homes can proceed, as formerly, unhindered.

A TISSUE OF FALSEHOOD.

The Secretary of the Admiralty makes the following announcement:—

In a German wireless Press message circulated to-day, the allegations are repeated, only in fuller detail, that it is the practice of the British Government to abuse the immunity hitherto accorded to hospital ships, and to employ them for the conveyance of troops and their equipment. The message includes a particular reference to the hospital ship *Britannic*, which is said to have carried 2,500 British soldiers who were not invalids, on the sworn testimony of an Austrian singer named Albert Messany, who on the outbreak of war had been interned in Malta and had returned to England in November, 1916, on board the hospital ship *Britannic*.

The whole message is a tissue of falsehood; and the only true statement in the story attributed to Messany is the fact that he was brought home in the *Britannic*, as he was an invalid at the time and repatriated for this very reason. As may be expected, the German Press messages at this moment are filled with false statements of this kind in order to manufacture a pretext for the latest methods of warfare announced by Germany. It cannot too emphatically be stated that on no occasion since the beginning of the war have any British invalids and hospital staff been embarked on board any of His Majesty's hospital ships.

FROZEN IN SHIP'S BOATS.

INQUEST ON VICTIMS OF "LAURENTIC."

The Coroner's inquest on the bodies of 74 of the victims of the disaster to the *Laurentic*, off the Irish coast, has found that death was due to shock and exposure. Six of the bodies were unidentified.

Evidence of identification was taken only in the case of Engineer-Lieut. James Carlisle, 48, the Coroner stating that a similar verdict to that returned in his case could be returned in the other cases at the close of the proceedings. Mr. Carlisle was married and belonged to Southampton.

The captain of the *Laurentic*, Reginald Arthur Norton, R.N., said the vessel arrived in port early on the morning of January 28th, and left for sea again shortly after 5 o'clock on the evening of the same day. She carried a complement of 470. At 5.55 he was on the ship's bridge. There was a violent explosion abreast of the foremast on the port side outside the ship, followed 20sec. later by a similar explosion abreast of the engine room on the port side. He saw nothing in the water before the explosion. The ship was steaming full speed ahead and no lights were showing. He put the telegraph "Full speed astern," fired a rocket, gave the order to turn out the boats and tried to send a wireless call for help, but found it could not be done owing to the second explosion having stopped the dynamo and left the ship in darkness.

Asked what he thought was the cause of the explosion, the witness:—"Either torpedoes or mines. I am not able to say which." There were 120 survivors. All the men got away safely in the boats.

The best of order prevailed after the explosion. Officers and men lived up to the best traditions of the Navy. About 45 minutes after the explosion he went round the vessel below in company with Mr. Porter, the chief steward, who had an electric torch, and satisfied himself there were no more men on the ship. He then decided to abandon the ship, which was sinking.

It was possible that some one was killed in the engine room, but he knew that all the men got up from the stokehold. The men died from exposure owing to the coldness of the night. His own boat, which was then almost full of water, was picked up by a trawler at 1 o'clock the following morning. All the men in the boat survived. Another boat contained five survivors, although it had been exposed to the bitterly cold weather for about 24 hours. The crew arrived within a couple of hours of his signal. Forty-five minutes elapsed from the time of the explosion until he left the ship, "and naturally," he added, "I was the last to leave."

The medical evidence showed that death in every case was due to shock following exposure. The chief naval officer of the district said that one boat picked up in the afternoon following the disaster contained five survivors, out of 20; the remainder being frozen.

The jury returned a verdict that the cause of death was shock and exposure.

The Coroner and the jury expressed deep sympathy with the relatives of the victims, the foreman observing that the captain had acted very heroically and had done everything possible for his men.

The Secretary of the Admiralty has made the following announcement:—"A statement appeared in some of this morning's papers to the effect that there was not sufficient time to save all those who had escaped being killed by the explosion, and the ship *Laurentic* went down carrying with her over 200 men. This is wholly incorrect; there was ample time to save everybody, and the ship was very carefully searched above and below, and all hands were put into the boats. Those who were lost were lost owing to the cold and the severity of the weather preventing them reaching the shore."

LOSS OF THE "WORCESTER-SHIRE."

FIRST BIBBY LINER SUNK IN THE WAR.

The *Rangoon Gazette* of February 20th contains the following:—No further details of importance had been received up to yesterday evening concerning the sinking of the *Worcestershire*, off Colombo on Friday. Further telegrams from passengers to friends confirmed the fact that all passengers had been saved.

The *Worcestershire* left Rangoon on February 19th, having the following passengers:—Sir Charles Fox, Mrs. J. H. Saunders and two sons, Mrs. J. E. Houlden, Mrs. M. B. W. Holme, Mrs. H. Millward, Mr. W. W. Forbes, Captain G. C. Richardson, R.E.A., Mrs. C. Durrant, Mr. and Mrs. Watt and son, Miss L. M. Connell, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Vollum, Mr. C. H. Collingwood, Mr. W. O. Rogers, Mrs. B. S. James, Mr. J. P. Sweeney, nurse Tinkler (with Mr. and Mrs. Saunders), and 32 Indian passengers, men, women and children.

The *Worcestershire* is the first of the Bibby line vessels to be lost since the outbreak of the war. She was under the command of Captain A. R. Lindsay and carried a complement of 50 Europeans and 83 lascars. The *Worcestershire* was a steel, twin screw steamer of four masts; was 452.3 feet in length with a beam of 54.5 feet and a depth of 22.1 feet; was of 7,176 gross tonnage; was built in 1904 by Messrs. Harland & Wolff, Limited, at Belfast, and was registered at Liverpool; carried wireless and was one of the most up-to-date and comfortable steamers of the line.

A Colombo message of February 21st says:—"A communication issued by the Ceylon Government states that the loss of the *Worcestershire* was due probably to either a floating mine or an internal explosion. The passengers and all but three of the crew were saved."

CIVIL SERVANTS AND THE ARMY.

45,000 ELIGIBLE MEN.

THE DEMAND FOR INQUIRY.

It is calculated that there are about 15,000 young men eligible for military service, still employed in the different Government departments in London, and about 30,000 in the Post Office. Their cases have never been submitted to any tribunal under the Military Service Acts. The feeling of public resentment and indignation at this state of things is growing (says *The Times*) and the remedies suggested are:—

1.—Each head of a department to provide a list of his men who are of military age.
2.—The indispensability of such men to be submitted to a tribunal of specially qualified judges.
3.—Men over military age and women to be asked to apply for posts in the Civil Service which they could satisfactorily fill, and have their qualifications tested by a central bureau of all the Government departments.

The course which finds favour with members of Parliament especially, interested in the subject is that a small committee of members of the House of Commons should be appointed to investigate the nature of the work done by young men of military fitness in the departments and report whether or not substitutes could be found.

HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS AS ARBITERS. In November, 1915, the Treasury, as responsible for the Civil Service, sent to the heads of departments a circular urging them to set free as many of their clerks as possible, and in order that they might be able to do so suggested the postponement of all unessential work, and the employment of women or men not of military age. Full discretion, however, was left to each head as to the number of clerks in his department he thought fit to set free.

As each group of men of military age was being called up for service with the Colours, the recruiting officer submitted to each Government Department a list of the employees of that department included in the group; and the head of the department was asked to return the list to the recruiting officer with a statement showing against each name whether the individual (a) could be spared at once; (b) could not be spared until a later date; or (c) was indispensable for the duties in which he was engaged. The recruiting officer dealt with the men in accordance with the return, and in the case of the indispensable took no further action.

The result of the coming-out, as applied by the chiefs of Departments, is shown by a return of Civil Servants of military age presented to the House of Commons last May, since which very little has been done. The number of men employed in the different Governments—exclusive of the Post Office—at the outbreak of war was 57,000. Those of military age numbered 27,000—11,500 married and 15,500 single. On April 1st—when the return was prepared—the men of military age numbered over 20,000. Of these, 3,300 had been medically rejected. The net result, therefore, was that the men of military age and fitness retained in the Civil Service numbered 17,300, or 30 per cent. of the total employed on April 1st. Since then it is supposed that some 2,000 more have been released. The Post Office, the largest of the Departments, which is not included in the above figures, is supposed to have done remarkably well. Of the 80,000 men of military age employed by the Department at the outbreak of war, 50,000 have been released for service.

The position in some of the other chief Departments on April 1st is shown in the following table, and so, by all accounts, it may be regarded to-day:—

	Male	Female	Total
Admiralty	3,918	1,673	5,591
War Office	7,600	1,500	9,100
Munitions Department	4,813	1,128	5,941
Home Office	3,199	1,108	4,307
Board of Trade	6,409	2,421	8,830
Customs	8,840	4,400	13,240
Inland Revenue	5,866	2,180	8,046

"MORE EXPENSIVE SOLDIER IN THE WORLD." The two obstacles to the general calling up of Civil servants for military service are their indispensability, in the opinion of their chiefs, and their costliness, as soldiers, in the view of the Treasury. The head of the department thinks his staff cannot be replaced; the Treasury declares that the Civil servant who becomes a soldier is the most expensive soldier in the world. At the beginning of the war, when volunteers were called for, the Government, desiring to set an example to private employers, agreed that Civil servants who joined the Army should not be at any loss financially. The difference between their military pay and their civil pay should be made up. Accordingly there are thousands of Civil servants serving in the ranks as privates who are getting from £150 to £300 a year to £1,000. In addition to that, substitutes of non-military age have to be paid for doing their work.

In the latest figures available—those for October—for substitution in the Civil Service it is stated that there are 64,000 more than in July, 1914, when there were altogether 66,000. The increase is 97 per cent. This is direct substitution of men, but the real increase in the number of women in the Civil Service is 67,000, which is an increase of 101.4, and it is also stated that there is no lack of women reported.

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APRIL 15, 1917.

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O. H. RITTER, Freight and Passenger Agent, Prince's Buildings, Ice House Street.

"ASAHI BEER."

DAI NIPPON BREWERY CO., TOKYO.
SOLE AGENTS: MITSU BUSSAN KAISHA, Ltd. No. 230 or 155.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO.

STEAM FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, BOMBAY, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS AND LONDON.

THROUGH BILLS OF LADING ISSUED FOR BATAVIA, AMERICAN, CONTINENTAL, AND SOUTH AFRICA PORTS.

THE *Homeward Mail Steamer*, carrying His Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this port as usual, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports. Passengers' accommodation in the connecting vessel secured before departure from Hongkong. Suits and Valises and Tea and Cargo for Italy, France and London (under arrangement) will be conveyed by this Steamer proceeding via Batavia to Marseilles and London. Parcels will be received at the Office until 3 p.m. the day before sailing. The contents and value of all packages are required. For further particulars, sailing dates, etc., apply to

E. V. D. PARR, Superintendent.



BEAR IN MIND THAT PRIMO BEER

IS The friend of the many, The enemy of none. Tried and proved everywhere. Endorsed world-wide.

The same yesterday, to-day, always! Obtainable from all Wine Merchants, leading Hotels and Clubs in the Colony.

SOLE AGENTS: H. BUTTONE & SON, 16, QUEEN'S ROAD.

HONGKONG METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE.

Hongkong Observatory, March 13th.

	Previous Day	On Date at 2 p.m.	On Date at 6 a.m.	On Date at 2 p.m.
Barometer	29.63	29.84	29.85	
Temperature	70	68	72	
Humidity	85	85	85	
Wind Direction	East	East	East	
Force	4	0	2	
Weather	0	0	0	
Rain	0	0	0	

Highest temp. of day on 13th 70
Lowest temp. of night on 13th 68

SHIPPING

ARRIVALS.

DERWENT, British str., 1,000, Holmes, 12th March—Saigon 8th March, Rice—Butterfield & Swire.
 HANYANG, British str., 1,207, Pickett, 13th March—Kobe 7th March, Coal—Butterfield & Swire.
 HAITAN, British str., 1,181, A. E. Hodgins, 13th March—Siam 12th March, General—Douglas LaPrade & Co.
 HOTO, MARU, Japanese str., 1,000, 1st March—Siam—Keebung 10th March, Sugar—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.
 HUSKIE, Chinese str., 720, T. Mori, 13th March—Bangkok 3rd March, Rice—Thorn & Co.
 LIANGHONG, British str., 1,220, G. Hooker, 13th March—Bangkok 5th March, Rice—Butterfield & Swire.
 SHINPOO, Chinese str., 1,080, Hessel, 13th March—Chingwang 6th March, Coal—Doddwell & Co.
 SINKING, British str., 1,616, Wm. Benson, 12th March—Amoy 11th March, General—Butterfield & Swire.
 SUNGLAND, British str., 987, H. Trowbridge, 12th March—Haiphong 10th March, General—Butterfield & Swire.
 TALL, Chinese str., 1,021, J. S. Gundersen, 12th March—Saigon 7th March, Rice—Butterfield & Swire.
 YUENSANG, British str., 1,190, Moseley, 13th March—Mantle 10th March, General—Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.

WEATHER REPORT.

On the 12th at 11.55—No returns from Japanese stations. Pressure has increased considerably over S. Manchuria, and decreased moderately in the vicinity of Shanghai; other changes are slight. It is highest over S. Manchuria and lowest over the southern part of the Chai Sea. A continental depression is indicated over the lower Yangtze Valley.

Hongkong rainfall for 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.60 inch. Total since 1st January, 1.89 inches against an average of 4.04 inches.

The forecast for the 24 hours ending at noon to-day is as follows:—

Direction	Forecast
Hongkong to Gap Rock	E. & S.E. winds, moderate to high, cloudy
Formosa Channel	Two suns at No. 1.
South Coast of China between the same as Hongkong and Lamook	No. 1.
South Coast of China between the same as Hongkong and Hainan	No. 1.

CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER

17th MARCH, A.M.

Station.	Hour.	Barometer at Sea Level	Temperature.	Humidity.	Direction.	Force.	Weather.
Vladivostok	8 a.	30.33	21		NNW	3	
Nemuro	5 a.						
Hakodate							
Tokio							
Kochi							
Nagasaki							
Kagoshima							
Oshima ..							
Naha							
Itoyama							
Esan In.							
Chefoo	6 m.						
Weihaiwei		30.18	34	80	SE	1	
Hankow							
Ichang							
Kiukiang							
Changsha							
Shanghai		29.36	50	100	SEB	1	
Cuznad		29.84	50	100	SEB	1	
Sharp Peak		29.93	60	88		0	
Amoy	9 a.	29.98	60	90	SE	1	
Swatow	6 a.	29.87	64	96		0	
Taitoku	5 p.	29.67	64	96		0	
Taipei		29.16	70			0	
Tainan		29.16	70			0	
Koshan		29.66	73		N	2	
Keelung		29.80	70		NNW	4	
Keelondore		29.80	70		N	2	
Canton	6 a.	29.86	67	100	SEK	2	
Hongkong		29.84	68	94	SE	2	
Gap Rock...		29.85				3	
Macao		29.81	66	94	NW	3	
Wuchow	9 a.						
Hobhow							
Fukien							
Hailien	7 a.	29.70	70	90	SEB	4	
Tsurane		29.75	70			4	
Cape St. James		29.74	71		NNE	6	
Aparr	6 a.	29.81	73	91	SEB	4	
Dagupan		29.78	76	88	N	2	
Manila		29.84	69	91	NNW	1	
Legos		29.78	77	91	NNW	1	
Tobolob		29.76	75	91	N	2	
Sulito		29.75	76	94	SW	2	
Surigao		29.69	78	94	N	1	
Luban							

INDIAN AFRICAN LINE.

Cargo carried on through Bills of Lading from HONGKONG to BEIRA, DELAGOA BAY, DURBAN, EAST LONDON, PORT ELIZABETH and CAPE TOWN with transshipment at COLOMBO to Steamers of the INDIAN AFRICAN LINE.

ORIENTAL AFRICAN LINE.

Regular Direct Service from JAPAN, CHINA and STRAITS to BEIRA, DELAGOA BAY, DURBAN, EAST LONDON, PORT ELIZABETH and CAPE TOWN, calling at MAURITIUS en route, and affording the Quickest Freight Transport from the ORIENT to SOUTH AFRICA.

For particulars of sailings shippers are requested to apply to the undersigned.

THE BANK LINE, LIMITED,
Managing Agents.

"ELLERMAN" LINE.

(MILNER & ECKENALL STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.)

JAPAN, CHINA AND STRAITS

TO
UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

Steamers proceed via Suez Canal or Cape of Good Hope at Owners' option.

Subject to change without notice.

For particulars of sailings shippers are requested to apply to the undersigned.

THE BANK LINE, LIMITED,
General Agents.

C. N. C. CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.**SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.**

FOR STRAITS, TO SALT, WEIHAUWEL, CHEFOO & DALNY ... "TAMING" ... On 14th Mar., Noon. MANILA, CEBU & ILOILO ... "TAMING" ... On 14th Mar., Noon. DALNY ... "FOOCHOW" ... On 14th Mar., Noon. DALNY ... "SZECHUEN" ... On 14th Mar., 4 P.M. SHANGHAI ... "SINKIANG" ... On 15th Mar., 4 P.M. TSINGTAO and DALNY ... "SHANSI" ... On 15th Mar., 4 P.M. SHANGHAI ... "SUNNING" ... On 15th Mar., 4 P.M. SHANGHAI ... "SUNNING" ... On 20th Mar., 4 P.M. MANILA, CEBU and ILOILO ... "SUNNING" ... On 21st Mar., Noon. TIENTSIN ... "SUNNING" ... On 22nd Mar., 4 P.M.

DIRECT SAILINGS TO WEST RIVER, Twice Weekly.

SS. "LINTAN" and SS. "SANTU" MANILA LINE—TWIN-SCREW STEAMERS "CEINHUA" "TAMING" and "TEAN". Excellent Saloon accommodation Amidships; Electric Fans fitted; Extra State-rooms on Deck, aft, on "TAMING" and "TEAN". SHANGHAI LINE—PASSENGERS' MAILS and CARGO, SS. "ANHUI", "CHENAN", "YINGCHOW", "SHANTUNG", "SINKIANG" and "SUNNING", with excellent accommodation, Electric Light and Fans in Saloon and State-rooms, maintain a regular schedule service between Canton, Hongkong and Shanghai, leaving Hongkong for Shanghai direct every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday, taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports. Passengers are landed in Shanghai, avoiding the inconvenience of transshipment at Woosung.

For Freight or Passage apply to—

TELEPHONE 38.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.

HONGKONG AND SOUTH CHINA COAST PORT SERVICE.

REGULAR SERVICE of Fast, High Class Coast Steamers having good accommodation for First Class Passengers, Electric Light and Fans in staterooms and Saloons and Excellent cuisine.

FOR

SWATOW, AMOY AND FOOCHOW AND RETURN.

(Occupying 9 to 10 Days).

"HAITAN" ... Capt. A. E. Hodgins ... THURSDAY, 15th Mar., at 11 A.M.

Arrivals and Departures from the Company's Wharf (near Elsie Pier).

For Freight and Passage, apply to—

DOUGLAS LARRAIK & CO.,
General Managers.

BRITISH INDIA S. N. CO., LTD.**APCAR LINE.**

REGULAR SERVICE BETWEEN

CALCUTTA STRAITS, SHANGHAI AND JAPAN PORTS.

EASTWARD

WESTWARD

The above Steamers have excellent Saloon accommodation for Passengers and are used with all modern conveniences and carry a duly qualified surgeon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DAVID SASSOON & CO., LTD.,
Agents.

P. & O. S. N. CO.**ROYAL MAIL SERVICE**

UNDER CONTRACT WITH HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT TO

MARSEILLES AND LONDON,

TAKING PASSENGERS AND CARGO TO

STRAITS, COLOMBO, INDIA, AUSTRALASIA, EGYPT, &c.

Steamer	Leave Hong Kong	Connecting Mail	Due at Marseilles	Due at London
to	from	Str. from Colombo	1917	1917
COLOMBO	Noon			

When Passengers change Steamers at COLOMBO.

Accommodation in the connecting Steamer from COLOMBO is definitely reserved in Hongkong at the time of Booking.

On the Australian Route Tickets Interchangeable with Orient Line.

SAILINGS DIRECT TO

SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

SS.

Leave Hongkong About

Passengers may travel by Railway in Japan between Ports of Call free of charge.

Return Tickets are available by Messageries Maritimes Company.

INTERMEDIATE STEAMERS

(Non-Transshipment),

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE MAIL STEAMERS, WILL LEAVE DIRECT FOR

MARSEILLES AND LONDON,

Calling at SINGAPORE, PORT SWETENHAM, PENANG, COLOMBO AND PORT SAID.

CARRYING 1ST AND 2ND SALOON PASSENGERS AT REDUCED RATES.

PROPOSED SAILINGS:

STEAMERS	Leave Hong Kong	Leave S'pore	Due at Marseilles	Due at London
	about	about	if calling about	about
The Intermediate	Service is	Temporarily	Suspended.	

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY FITTED ON ALL STEAMERS.

All Cabins are fitted with Electric Fans free of charge and each Berth furnished with an Electric Reading Lamp.

Round-the-World Tickets and Through Tickets to New York in connection with the Principal Mail Lines.

Return Tickets at fare and a half available to Europe for Two Years; or to Intermediate Ports for Six Months.

Owing to the War in Europe Steamers and Sailing dates are liable to be cancelled or altered without notice.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

Consignees are reminded of the necessity to apply to the Company's Agents regarding arrival of consignments expected of which they have received documents or advice.

Any damaged packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignee, and the Company's Surveyors, Messrs. GODDARD & DOUGLAS, at 10 A.M. on MONDAYS and THURSDAYS. All Claims must be presented within ten days of the Steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognised. No Claims will be admitted after the goods have left the Godowns.

For further information, Passage Fares, Freight, Handbooks, Dates of Sailing, etc., apply to

E. V. D. PARR,
Superintendent.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.**THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.**

LONDON via SINGAPORE, MALACCA, PENANG, COLOMBO, DELAGOA, BAY CAPE TOWN and MADEIRA.

VICTORIA, B.C. and SEATTLE (SHIDZUOKA MARU) (WED. DAY, 23th)

via SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE (Capt. Noma) 12,500 Mar., at Noon.

NAGOYA and YOKOHAMA (S. AWA MARU) (TUES. DAY, 1st)

(Capt. H. Yashu) 12,500 May, at Noon.

SYDNEY and MELBOURNE via MANILA, BANGALOR, THURSDAY ISLAND

TOWNSVILLE & BRISBANE.

CALCUTTA via SINGAPORE, PENANG and RANGOON.

BOMBAY via SINGAPORE, MALACCA and COLOMBO.

MOJI and KOBE ...

NAGASAKI, KOBE and NIKKO MARU (FRIDAY, 16th)

YOKOHAMA (Capt. Takeda) 9,600 Mar., at 10 A.M.

SHANGHAI, KOBE and FUSHIMI MARU (THURSDAY, 15th)

(Capt. Iriawa) 21,000 Mar., at 10 A.M.

YOKOHAMA ... HIRANO MARU (FRIDAY, 23rd)

(Capt. H. Fraser) 16,000 Mar., at 11 A.M.

EASTBOUND NEW YORK LINE VIA PANAMA CANAL.

(CARGO ONLY).

NEW YORK via MANILA, SAN FRANCISCO, PANAMA and COLON.

5 Wireless Telegraphy.

For further information, apply to—

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA,
Agents.

TELEPHONE Nos. 292 and 293

TOYO KISEN KAISHA.**SAN FRANCISCO LINE.**

VIA SHANGHAI, MANILA, THE INLAND SEA

JAPAN AND HONOLULU.

Sailings from Hongkong—Subject to Change Without Notice.

Steamer	Tons and Speed	Leave Hongkong
NIPPON MARU	11,000 — 15 knots	MON., 26th Mar.
SHINYO MARU	22,000 — 21 knots	MON., 2nd April.
PERSIA MARU	8,000 — 14 knots	MON., 16th April.
KOREA MARU	18,000 — 18 knots	SATUR., 28th April.
SIBERIA MARU	19,000 — 18 knots	SATUR., 12th May.
TENTO MARU	23,000 — 21 knots	WED., 13rd May.

FIRST CLASS TO LONDON G\$343 (£71.10.0) RETURN G\$608 (£122).

" " " SAN FRANCISCO G\$2.50 " " G\$437.50.

Passengers purchasing Trans-Pacific Return Tickets have the option of returning from Vancouver by Steamers of the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY CO.

SPECIAL RATES given to NAVAL and MILITARY CIVIL SERVANTS MISSIONARIES, etc.

ROUND THE WORLD Tickets issued in connection with all the Principal Mail Lines and Trans-Siberian Railway.

Passengers may Travel by Railway between Ports of Call in Japan free of charge.

SOUTH AMERICA LINE.

For JAPAN PORTS, HONOLULU, SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES, SALINA CRUZ, BALBOA, CALLAO, ARIKA, IQUIQUE and VALPARAISO.

TRANS-ANDAN ROUTE TO BUENOS AIRES.

For Full Particulars as to Passage and Freight, apply to—

TELEPHONE 281.

T. DAIGO, Agent,
King's Building.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES**FRENCH MAIL LINES.**

SERVICE TO AND FROM JAPAN VIA SHANGHAI.

SERVICE TO AND FROM EUROPE.

Ports of call:—Yokohama, Kobe, Shanghai, Hongkong, Haiphong, Tourane, Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Djibouti, Suez, Port Said, Marseilles.

For SHANGHAI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA ...

ALL STEAMERS FITTED WITH WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

Return Tickets to Europe available two years.

Return Tickets to Intermediate Ports available six months.

For full particulars regarding sailings, apply to

TELEPHONE 740.

P. THOMAS, Agent,
Queen's Building.

O. S. K. OSAKA SHOSHEN KAISHA.

REGULAR SERVICES, PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG

(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

North American Line. For VICTORIA, SEATTLE AND TACOMA, via SHANGHAI, MANILA, NAGASAKI, MOJI, KOBE, and YOKOHAMA.

"BURMA MARU" ... THURSDAY, 15th Mar., at 3 P.M.

"MEXICO MARU" ... SATURDAY, 31st Mar., at 3 P.M.

NORTH AMERICAN LINE—This line maintains a regular fortnightly service between Hongkong and Puget Sound ports touching at intermediate ports in Japan. Overland cargo taken on through Bills of Lading for U.S.A. and connections are made at Puget Sound ports with the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway.

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE—Every three months the steamer proceeding to Rio de Janeiro, Santos and Buenos Aires, via Singapore, Mauritius, Durban and Cape Town.

AUSTRALIAN LINE—Monthly service between Japan and Adelaide, calling at Auckland, N. Z., Sydney and Melbourne.

BOMBAY LINE—Fortnightly service for Bombay calling at Singapore, Port Swettenham, Penang, and Colombo. At present this line's steamers maintain cargo only.

JAVA LINE—Monthly service for Java ports calling at Manila, Sandakan and Macassar. Booking for passengers and cargo to the ports.

FOR SAILING DATES AND FURTHER PARTICULARS REGARDING PASSENGER OR FREIGHT APPLY AT OFFICE.

FORMOSAN LINE—For Tamsui, Keelung and Anping, Takao, via Swatow and Amoy.

"SOSHU MARU" ... THURSDAY, 15th Mar., at 2 A.M.

"AMAKUSA MARU" ... SUNDAY, 18th Mar., at Noon.

These Formosan Liners will arrive at and depart from the SOON YIP WHARF, near the Harbour Office, and while the steamer is alongside the wharf Telephone No. 76 will be fixed.

For FURTHER INFORMATION, apply to—

H. YAMAUCHI, Manager,
No. 1, Queen's Building.

TEL. Nos. 744 and 745.

THE EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.

MAIL SERVICE TO AUSTRALIA.

All Steamers fitted with wireless Telegraphy.

The above Steamers are fitted with Refrigerating Machinery ensuring a plentiful supply of Ice, Fresh Provisions, etc., and are lighted throughout with Electricity.

All State Rooms have Electric Fans. A duly qualified Doctor and Stewardess are carried.

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